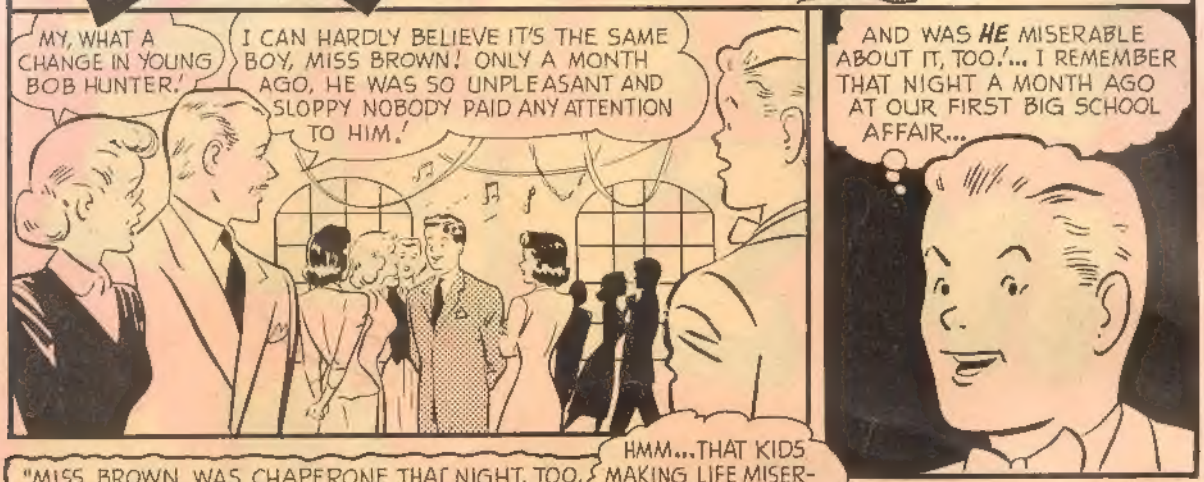
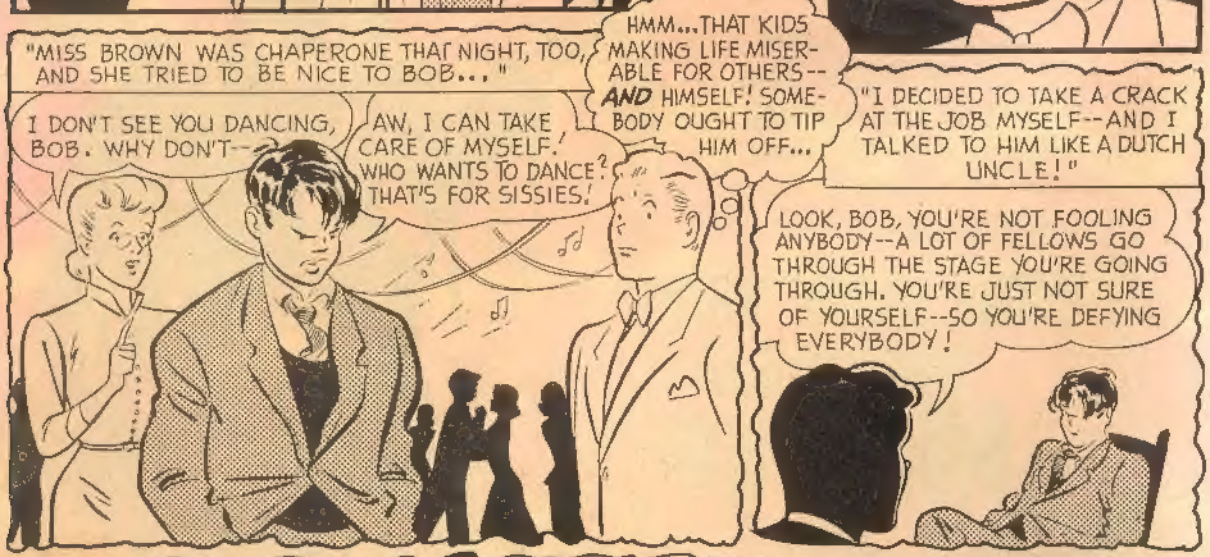
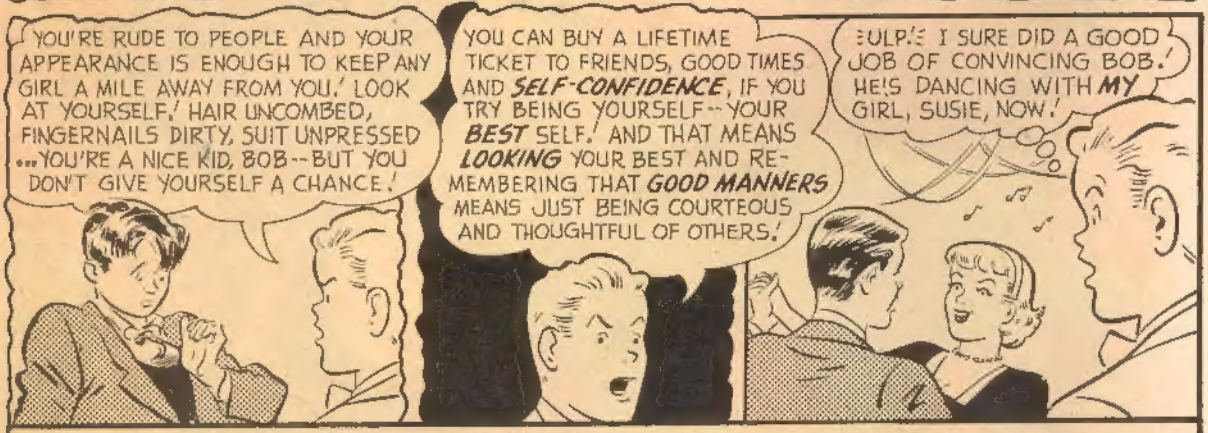
AMAZING SCIENCE-FICTION!
Strange Stories of the Future!
10c
MYSTERY IN SPACE
FEB. MAR. NO.6
IS THERE ANY ESCAPE FROM THE MOST AMAZING WEAPON OF ALL TIME?
Read--
"The DAY THE WORLD MELTED!"

BUZZY says: "BE YOURSELF--YOUR BEST SELF!"


MY, WHAT A CHANGE IN YOUNG BOB HUNTER!
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT'S THE SAME BOY, MISS BROWN! ONLY A MONTH AGO, HE WAS SO UNPLEASANT AND SLOPPY NOBODY PAID ANY ATTENTION TO HIM!
AND WAS HE MISERABLE ABOUT IT, TOO!... I REMEMBER THAT NIGHT A MONTH AGO AT OUR FIRST BIG SCHOOL AFFAIR...


"MISS BROWN WAS CHAPERONE THAT NIGHT, TOO, AND SHE TRIED TO BE NICE TO BOB..."
HMM...THAT KIDS MAKING LIFE MISERABLE FOR OTHERS--AND HIMSELF! SOMEBODY OUGHT TO TIP HIM OFF...
"I DECIDED TO TAKE A CRACK AT THE JOB MYSELF--AND I TALKED TO HIM LIKE A DUTCH UNCLE!"
I DON'T SEE YOU DANCING, BOB. WHY DON'T--
AW, I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF! WHO WANTS TO DANCE? THAT'S FOR SISSIES!
LOOK, BOB, YOU'RE NOT FOOLING ANYBODY--A LOT OF FELLOWS GO THROUGH THE STAGE YOU'RE GOING THROUGH. YOU'RE JUST NOT SURE OF YOURSELF--SO YOU'RE DEFYING EVERYBODY!


YOU'RE RUDE TO PEOPLE AND YOUR APPEARANCE IS ENOUGH TO KEEP ANY GIRL A MILE AWAY FROM YOU! LOOK AT YOURSELF! HAIR UNCOMBED, FINGERNAILS DIRTY, SUIT UNPRESSED ...YOU'RE A NICE KID, BOB--BUT YOU DON'T GIVE YOURSELF A CHANCE!
YOU CAN BUY A LIFETIME TICKET TO FRIENDS, GOOD TIMES AND SELF-CONFIDENCE, IF YOU TRY BEING YOURSELF--YOUR BEST SELF! AND THAT MEANS LOOKING YOUR BEST AND REMEMBERING THAT GOOD MANNERS MEANS JUST BEING COURTEOUS AND THOUGHTFUL OF OTHERS!
EULP! I SURE DID A GOOD JOB OF CONVINCING BOB! HE'S DANCING WITH MY GIRL, SUSIE, NOW!

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Printed in U.S.A.

IMAGINE GOING TO SLEEP IN THE 30TH CENTURY, AND WAKING UP IN THE 20TH--1000 YEARS IN THE *PAST*! THAT IS THE AMAZING EVENT WHICH HAPPENS TO LYLE AND THE FAMOUS *GALAXY KNIGHTS*! FURTHERMORE, THE SPACE COMMANDOS OF THE FUTURE ONLY DISCOVER THE AMAZING REASON BEHIND THEIR ENFORCED EXILE TO ANOTHER TIME AND ANOTHER GALAXY...

THE DAY the WORLD MELTED

IT IS THE 30TH CENTURY... AND PATROLS OF THE GALAXY KNIGHTS, THE FAMOUS SPACE COMMANDOS, RETURN TO THEIR FIGHTER STATION ON PLANETOID GALA...

LYLE REPORTING... ALL SPACE LANES SAFE... NO SIGN OF THE MASTER OF DOOM!

AFTER LANDING...

THOSE RUMORS OF THE MASTER OF DOOM STILL BEING ALIVE CERTAINLY LED US ON A WILD COMET CHASE, DIDN'T IT, LYLE?

IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE THAT HE ESCAPED THE EXPLOSION OF HIS SHIP! BUT WE'LL MAKE ONE LAST SWEEP TOMORROW--JUST TO MAKE SURE!

THE NEXT DAY, AS LYLE HURRIES TO HIS FIGHTER SHIP...

GREAT GALAXIES! IS THIS AN OPTICAL ILLUSION?

AIR LOC

BEFORE LYLE'S STARTLED GAZE A STRANGE LANDSCAPE APPEARS...

IT'S THE STATUE OF LIBERTY!

IMPOSSIBLE! THAT WOULD MEAN--

--THAT SOMEHOW WE'VE BEEN TRANSPORTED BACK IN TIME TO THE PLANET EARTH IN THE 20TH CENTURY! THERE'S YOUR PROOF! THE NEW YORK SKYLINE!

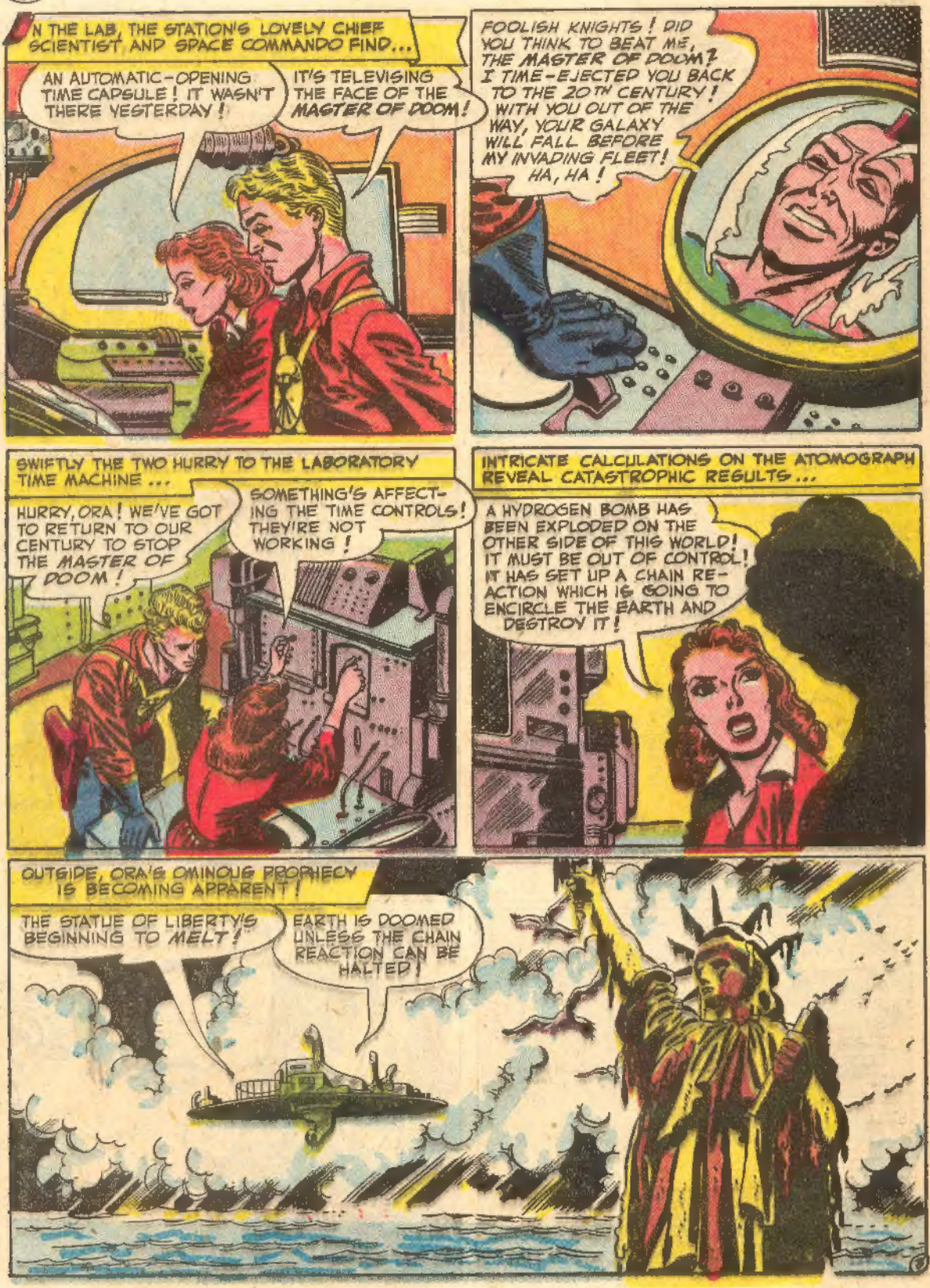
BUT--HOW DID WE GET HERE?

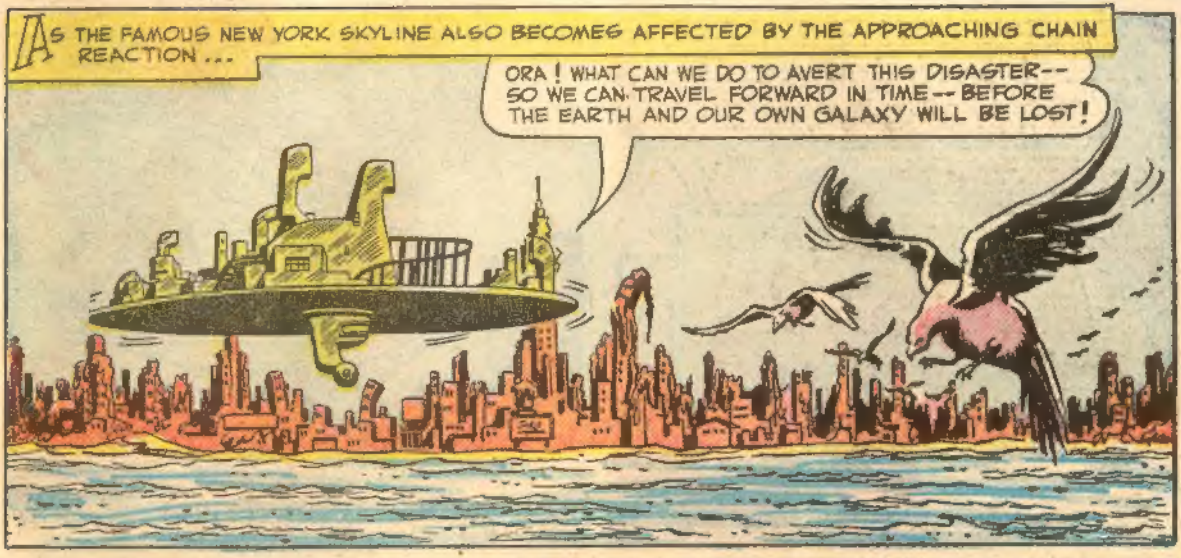
SUDDENLY, A STRIDENT CLAMOR IS HEARD...

ORA! WHAT'S THAT ALARM SOUNDING IN YOUR LABORATORY?

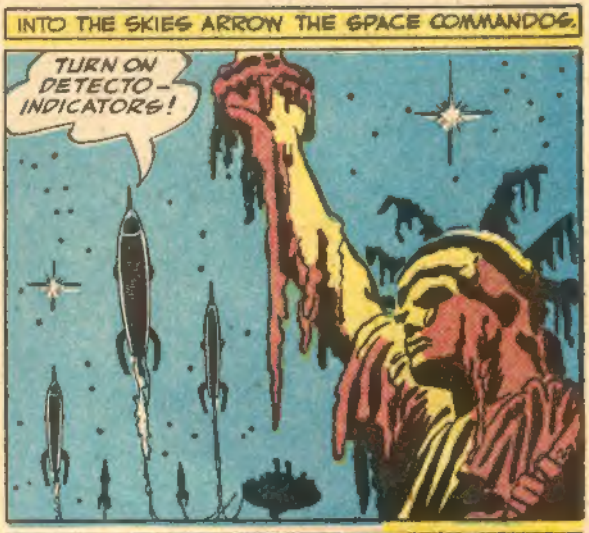
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, LYLE! THERE'S NOTHING IN THE LAB TO MAKE THAT NOISE! WE'D BETTER GO SEE WHAT IT IS!

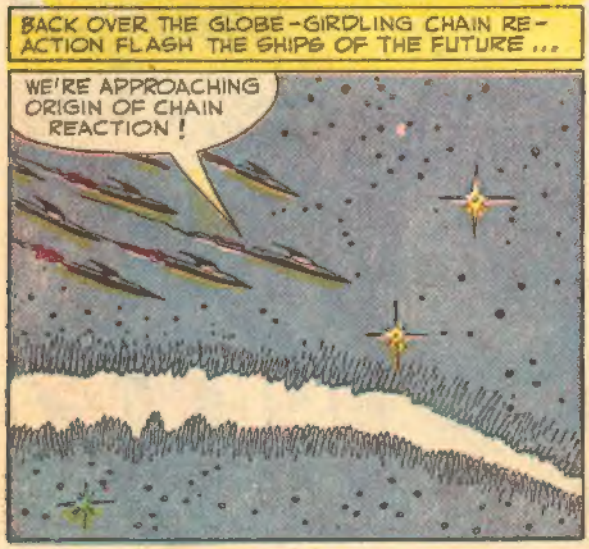
RING RING! RING!


IN THE LAB, THE STATION'S LOVELY CHIEF SCIENTIST AND SPACE COMMANDO FIND...
AN AUTOMATIC-OPENING TIME CAPSULE! IT WASN'T THERE YESTERDAY!
IT'S TELEVISING THE FACE OF THE MASTER OF DOOM!
FOOLISH KNIGHTS! DID YOU THINK TO BEAT ME, THE MASTER OF DOOM? I TIME-EJECTED YOU BACK TO THE 20TH CENTURY! WITH YOU OUT OF THE WAY, YOUR GALAXY WILL FALL BEFORE MY INVADING FLEET! HA, HA!
SWIFTLY THE TWO HURRY TO THE LABORATORY TIME MACHINE...
HURRY, ORA! WE'VE GOT TO RETURN TO OUR CENTURY TO STOP THE MASTER OF DOOM!
SOMETHING'S AFFECTING THE TIME CONTROLS! THEY'RE NOT WORKING!
INTRICATE CALCULATIONS ON THE ATOMOGRAPH REVEAL CATASTROPHIC RESULTS...
A HYDROGEN BOMB HAS BEEN EXPLODED ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS WORLD! IT MUST BE OUT OF CONTROL! IT HAS SET UP A CHAIN REACTION WHICH IS GOING TO ENCIRCLE THE EARTH AND DESTROY IT!
OUTSIDE, ORA'S OMINOUS PROPHECY IS BECOMING APPARENT!
THE STATUE OF LIBERTY'S BEGINNING TO MELT!
EARTH IS DOOMED UNLESS THE CHAIN REACTION CAN BE HALTED!


AS THE FAMOUS NEW YORK SKYLINE ALSO BECOMES AFFECTED BY THE APPROACHING CHAIN REACTION ...
ORA! WHAT CAN WE DO TO AVERT THIS DISASTER-- SO WE CAN TRAVEL FORWARD IN TIME -- BEFORE THE EARTH AND OUR OWN GALAXY WILL BE LOST!

ONLY BY REMOVING THE BOMB'S CHAIN REACTION TO A SPOT FAR ENOUGH AWAY FROM THE EARTH BEFORE IT EXPLODES IN FULL FORCE!
KNIGHTS -- TO YOUR SHIPS!


INTO THE SKIES ARROW THE SPACE COMMANDOS.
TURN ON DETECTO-INDICATORS!


BACK OVER THE GLOBE-GIRDLING CHAIN REACTION FLASH THE SHIPS OF THE FUTURE ...
WE'RE APPROACHING ORIGIN OF CHAIN REACTION!

THERE'S THE BOMB!

ABOVE THE UNCONTROLLABLE HYDROGEN BOMB EXPLOSION CIRCLE THE DARING GALAXY KNIGHTS...

ENCIRCLE BOMB WITH MAGNETO GRAPPLE BEAMS!

WE'VE GOT TO JETTISON THE BOMB ON A DEAD STAR FAR ENOUGH AWAY SO ITS FINAL EXPLOSION CAN'T HARM ANYONE! ALPHA OBSCURI IS OUR OBJECTIVE! LET'S GO!

INTO SPACE THE DEADLY CARGO IS HAULED AT ROCKETING SPEED--BUT NOT WITHOUT COST...

THE BOMB'S RUNAWAY ENERGY IS SO TREMENDOUS THAT IT'S ANNIHILATING SOME OF OUR SHIPS! IF WE DON'T REACH THE STAR SOON ENOUGH--NOT ONE OF US WILL BE LEFT!

AGONIZING MOMENTS LATER...

ALPHA OBSCURI! DUMP BOMB AND BLAST OUT OF HERE!

AWAY FROM THE MALIGNANT STAR STREAK THE SPACE COMMANDOS WHILE ALL TIME SEEMS TO STAND STILL... AND THEN...

IT'S DONE! BUT SOME OLD FAMILIAR FACES WILL BE MISSING AT THE FIGHTER STATION!

FAREWELL, KNIGHTS!... FRIENDS... WELL DONE!

MEANWHILE, BACK ON EARTH, THE ATOMETER RELATES THE CLIMAX OF THE UNSEEN DRAMA ENACTED BY THE KNIGHTS ...

THEY'VE SUCCEEDED, ORA! EARTH IS SAVED! SUMMON THE KNIGHTS BACK! WE HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE TO SPEED FORWARD TO THE 30TH CENTURY TO HALT THE *MASTER OF DOOM!*

FATHER--THE TIME MACHINE DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH ENERGY FUEL TO MAKE THE TRIP! THE CHAIN REACTION MUST HAVE CAUSED A BREAKAGE!

BUT SHORTLY...

ORA! WHAT'S HAPPENING?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT! A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF ENERGY IS POURING INTO THE TIME MACHINE FROM AN UNKNOWN SOURCE! THE CONTROLS ARE SET! WE'RE STARTING FORWARD INTO TIME!

IF LYLE AND THE KNIGHTS DON'T COME BACK HERE VERY SOON, THEY'LL BE STRANDED IN THE 20TH CENTURY!

THEY'RE NOWHERE IN SIGHT! OHH, FATHER! IT'S TOO LATE!

WITH DAZZLING SPEED, THE FIGHTER STATION, INHABITED SOLELY BY THE COMMANDER AND HIS DAUGHTER, PIERCES THE TIME ZONE OF THE FUTURE...

WE'RE BACK ON *GALA* IN OUR OWN TIME!

SUDDENLY...

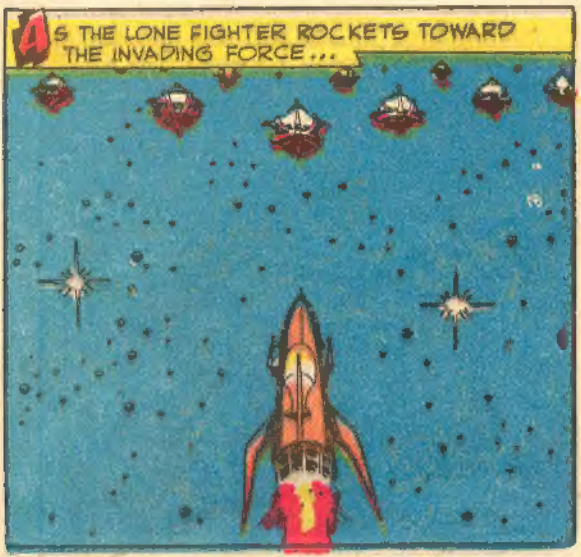
RAY BOMBS!

THE *MASTER OF DOOM* HAS STARTED HIS ATTACK! AND WITH LYLE AND THE REST OF THE KNIGHTS TRAPPED BACK IN THE 20TH CENTURY, THERE ARE JUST THE TWO OF US LEFT TO FIGHT HIM! HEAD FOR THAT SHIP!

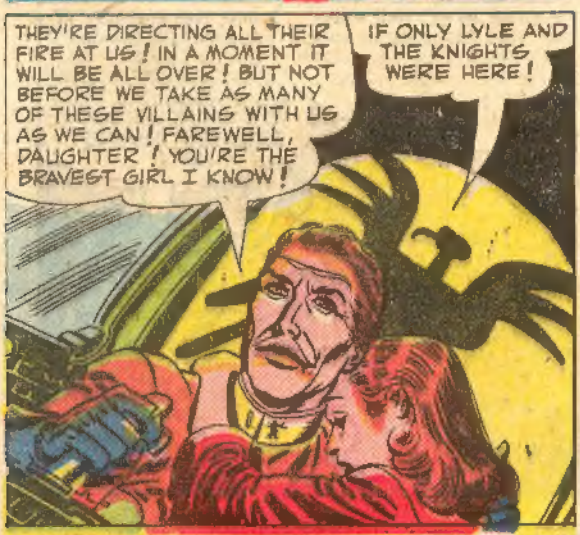
INTO THE SOLE REMAINING FIGHTER RACE THE FATHER AND DAUGHTER OF THE FUTURE...

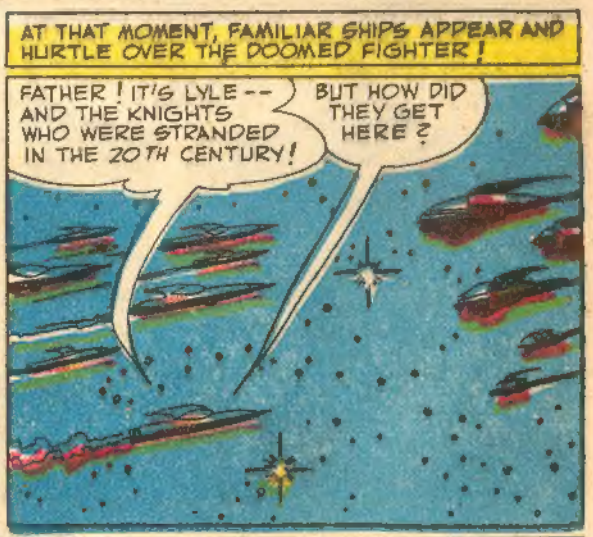
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO STOP THE *MASTER OF DOOM*, ORA! ONLY DELAY HIM! WITH THE SLIM HOPE THAT THE GALAXY WILL ARM ITSELF IN THE TIME IT TAKES FOR US TO BE EXPENDED!

I KNOW, FATHER! BUT IT'S OUR DUTY!

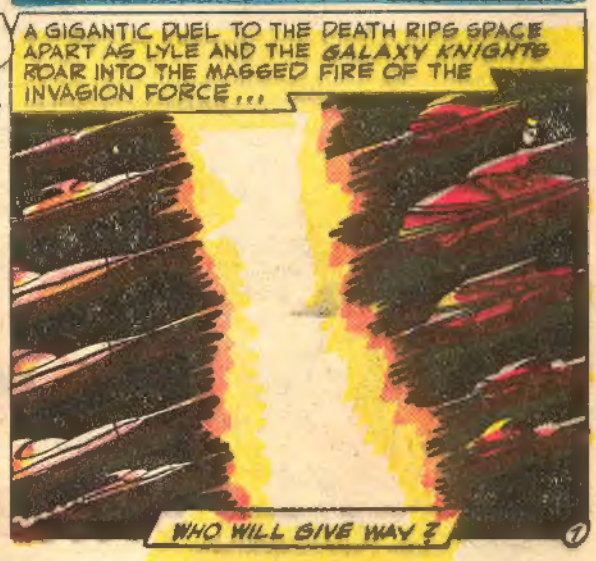

AS THE LONE FIGHTER ROCKETS TOWARD THE INVADING FORCE...

...THE MASTER OF DOOM, DIRECTING THE ENEMY FLEET, SNEERS AT HIS PUNY OPPOSITION...
THE FIGHTER STATION ALWAYS STOOD IN MY WAY OF CONQUERING THE GALAXY! NOW ONLY THIS SINGLE SHIP IS LEFT! IT WILL TAKE BUT A MOMENT TO DESTROY IT! HA, HA!


THEY'RE DIRECTING ALL THEIR FIRE AT US! IN A MOMENT IT WILL BE ALL OVER! BUT NOT BEFORE WE TAKE AS MANY OF THESE VILLAINS WITH US AS WE CAN! FAREWELL, DAUGHTER! YOU'RE THE BRAVEST GIRL I KNOW!
IF ONLY LYLE AND THE KNIGHTS WERE HERE!


AT THAT MOMENT, FAMILIAR SHIPS APPEAR AND HURTLE OVER THE DOOMED FIGHTER!
FATHER! IT'S LYLE -- AND THE KNIGHTS WHO WERE STRANDED IN THE 20TH CENTURY!
BUT HOW DID THEY GET HERE?

HOLD YOUR FIRE, KNIGHTS!.. HOLD IT... NOW-- RELEASE ALL ENERGY!


A GIGANTIC DUEL TO THE DEATH RIPS SPACE APART AS LYLE AND THE GALAXY KNIGHTS ROAR INTO THE MAGGED FIRE OF THE INVAGION FORCE...
WHO WILL GIVE WAY?

SUDDENLY, THE *MASTER OF DOOM* AND HIS MALIGNANT FORCE DISSOLVE IN THE SHATTERING FIRE BOILING FROM THE *KNIGHTS OF THE GALAXY!*

THEIR FIRE POWER IS IRRESISTIBLE! WHERE DID TH--

CEASE FIRE! THAT'S THE END OF THE MASTER OF DOOM!

BACK ON THE FIGHTER STATION...

WE TRANSFERRED ENERGY FROM THE EXPLODING STAR ON WHICH WE HAD DUMPED THE HYDROGEN BOMB AND ITS CHAIN REACTION, TO THE TIME MACHINE ON THE FIGHTER STATION!

I SEE! THEN RETAINING ENOUGH OF THE INCREDIBLE ENERGY, YOU FOLLOWED US, KEEPING OUT OF SIGHT, UNTIL THE RIGHT MOMENT CAME TO STRIKE AT THE *MASTER OF DOOM!*

SUDDENLY, AN UPHEAVAL IN SPACE!...

LOOK! A STAR'S EXPLODING IN SPACE!

IT'S *ALPHA OBSCURI*--ON WHICH WE DUMPED THE BOMB!

THE STAR IS SO FAR AWAY THAT THE EXPLOSION WHICH OCCURRED IN THE *20TH* CENTURY TOOK *1000 LIGHT YEARS* TO REACH US!

AND THE ENERGY IT FURNISHED ENABLED US TO DEFEAT THE *MASTER OF DOOM!* HIS DIABOLICAL PLOT TO DEFEAT US BOOMERANGED AGAINST HIM!

THE END

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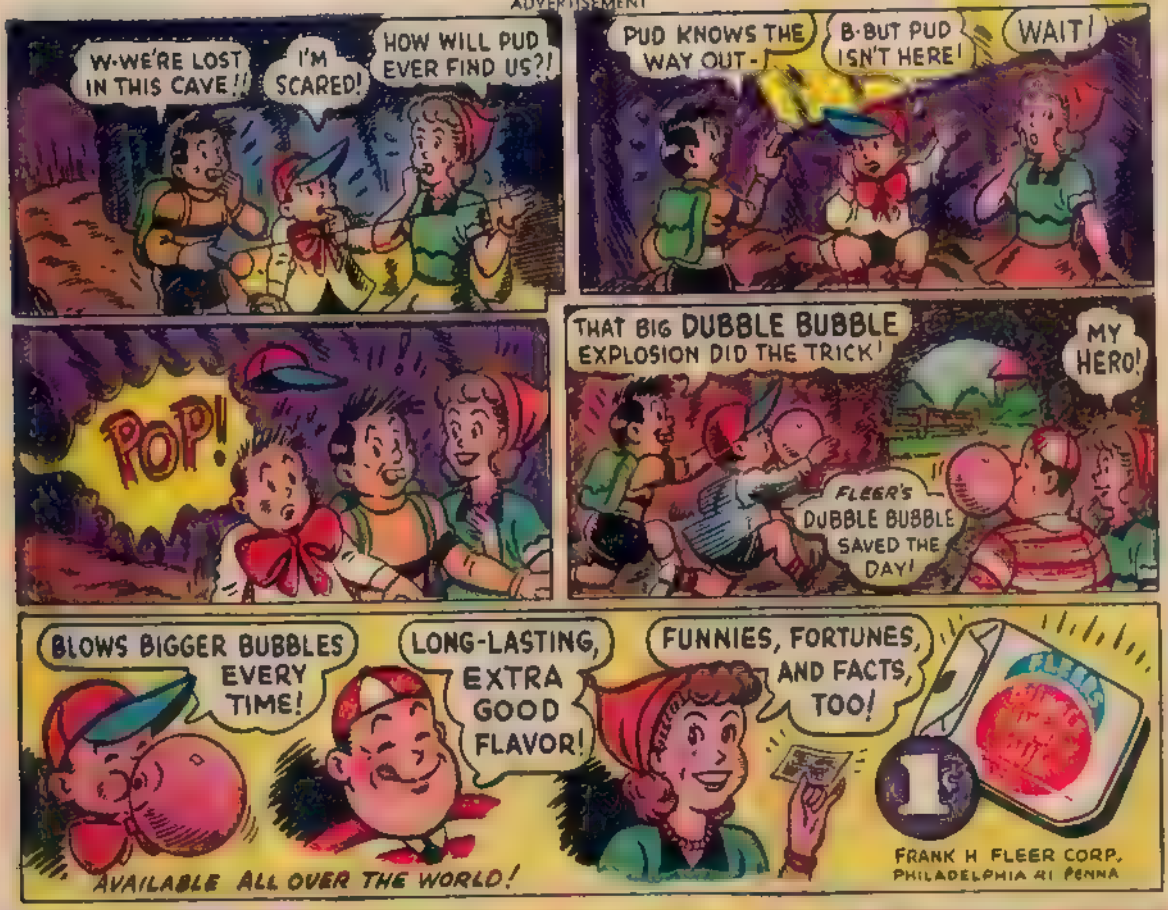
W-WE'RE LOST IN THIS CAVE!!
I'M SCARED!
HOW WILL PUD EVER FIND US?!
PUD KNOWS THE WAY OUT -
B-BUT PUD ISN'T HERE!
WAIT!
POP!
THAT BIG DUBBLE BUBBLE EXPLOSION DID THE TRICK!
MY HERO!
FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE SAVED THE DAY!
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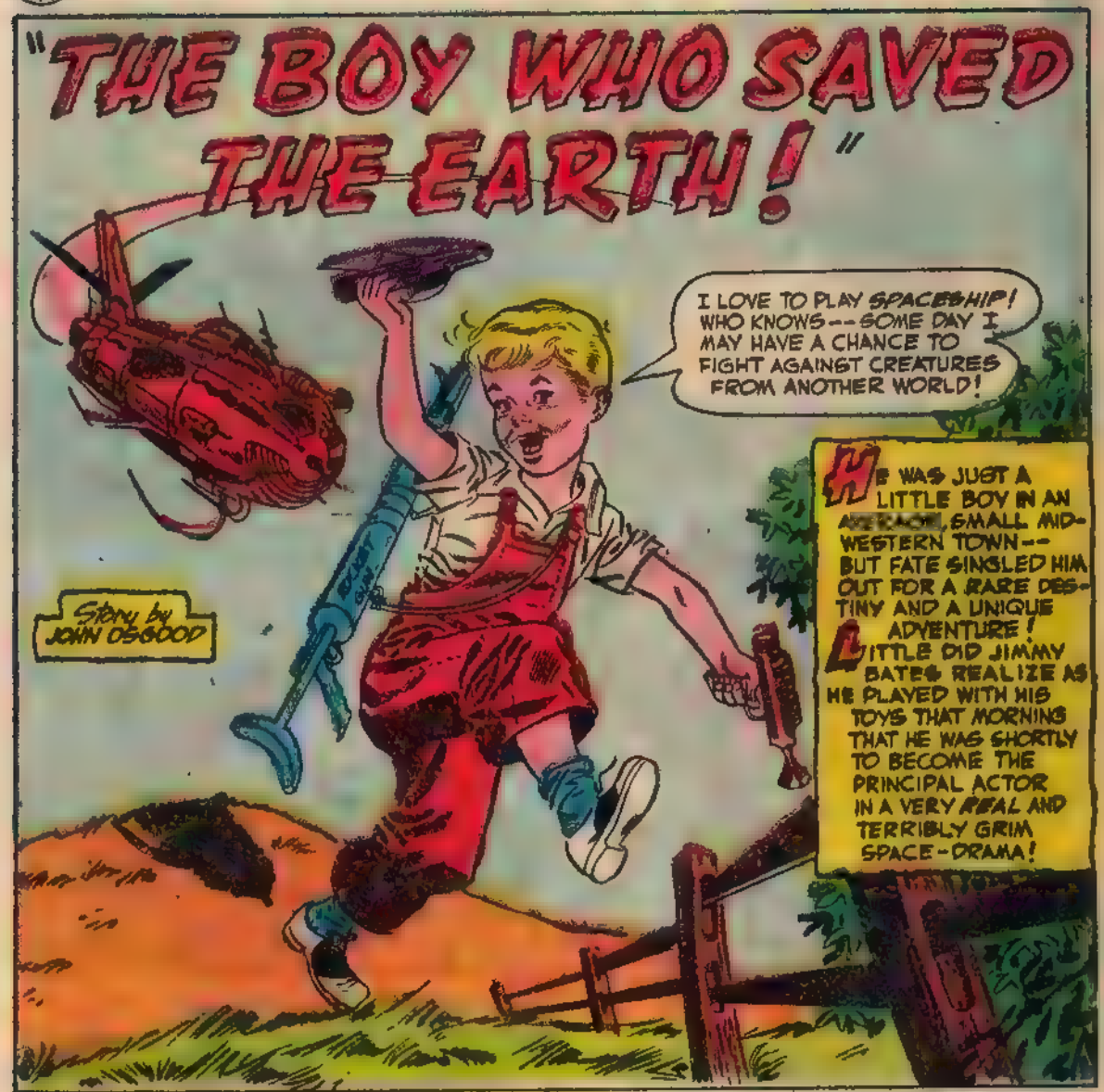
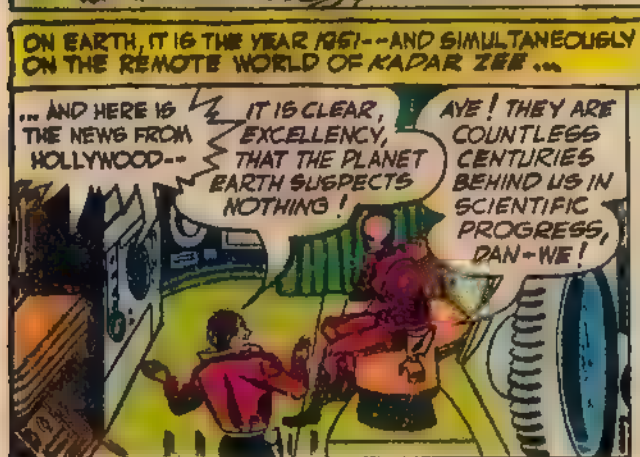
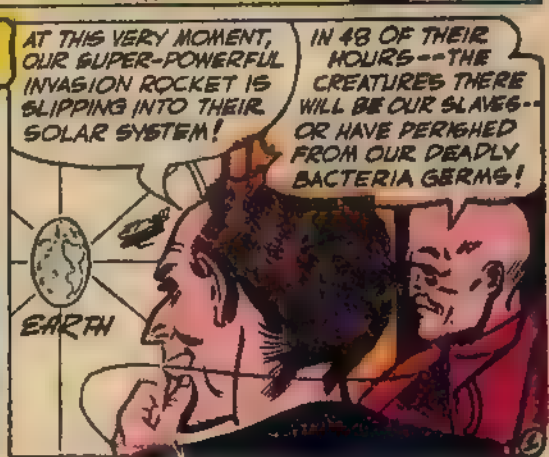

I LOVE TO PLAY SPACESHIP! WHO KNOWS--SOME DAY I MAY HAVE A CHANCE TO FIGHT AGAINST CREATURES FROM ANOTHER WORLD!
Story by JOHN OSGOOD
HE WAS JUST A LITTLE BOY IN AN [illegible], SMALL MID-WESTERN TOWN--BUT FATE SINGLED HIM OUT FOR A RARE DESTINY AND A UNIQUE ADVENTURE! LITTLE DID JIMMY BATES REALIZE AS HE PLAYED WITH HIS TOYS THAT MORNING THAT HE WAS SHORTLY TO BECOME THE PRINCIPAL ACTOR IN A VERY REAL AND TERRIBLY GRIM SPACE-DRAMA!


ON EARTH, IT IS THE YEAR 1951--AND SIMULTANEOUSLY ON THE REMOTE WORLD OF KADAR ZEE ...
... AND HERE IS THE NEWS FROM HOLLYWOOD--
IT IS CLEAR, EXCELLENCY, THAT THE PLANET EARTH SUSPECTS NOTHING!
AYE! THEY ARE COUNTLESS CENTURIES BEHIND US IN SCIENTIFIC PROGRESS, DAN-WE!


AT THIS VERY MOMENT, OUR SUPER-POWERFUL INVASION ROCKET IS SLIPPING INTO THEIR SOLAR SYSTEM!
IN 48 OF THEIR HOURS--THE CREATURES THERE WILL BE OUR SLAVES--OR HAVE PERISHED FROM OUR DEADLY BACTERIA GERMS!
EARTH

TRAVELING UNDER RADIO SILENCE, THE GRIM SPACE-WARSHIP NEARS ITS OBJECTIVE...

ENGINEER, CUT ALL ROCKET MOTORS! WE'LL FREE-FALL FROM HERE IN!

INSIDE THE COMPLICATED INTERIOR OF THE SHIP, THE COMMANDER GIVES LAST MINUTE ORDERS...

CHECK ALL DEATH RAY EQUIPMENT--ESPECIALLY OUR DEADLY BACTERIA BOMBS!

IF THE EARTHLINGS TRY TO RESIST OUR D-GUNS, OUR BACTERIA BOMBS WILL SOON CHANGE THEIR MINDS!

WE'LL LAND ON THE NIGHT SIDE, CRO-TEE--SO WE MAY PUT INTO EFFECT PLAN BX-3!

OUR SCIENTISTS LEAVE NOTHING TO CHANCE, COMMANDER!

AS THE SPACE-SHIP GLIDES NOISELESSLY DOWN INTO A GREAT, UNINHABITED VALLEY...

THE NEXT 12 HOURS ARE CRUCIAL, CRO-TEE! IT IS THE ONLY TIME WHEN ANYTHING CAN GO WRONG WITH PLAN BX-3! BUT THIS ISOLATED AREA SEEMS PERFECT FOR OUR PURPOSES!

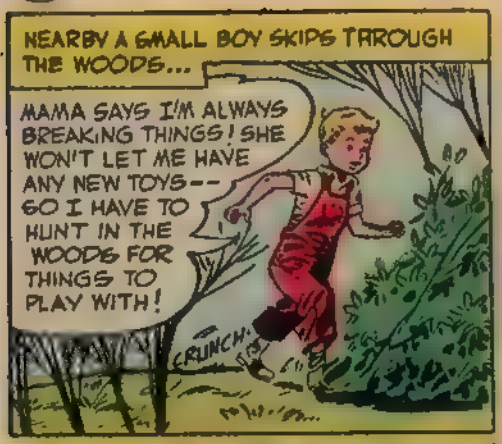
SHORTLY... AS THE INTRUDERS DEBARK, AND CERTAIN TABLETS ARE SWALLOWED TO PLACE THEM IN A STATE OF *SUSPENDED ANIMATION*...

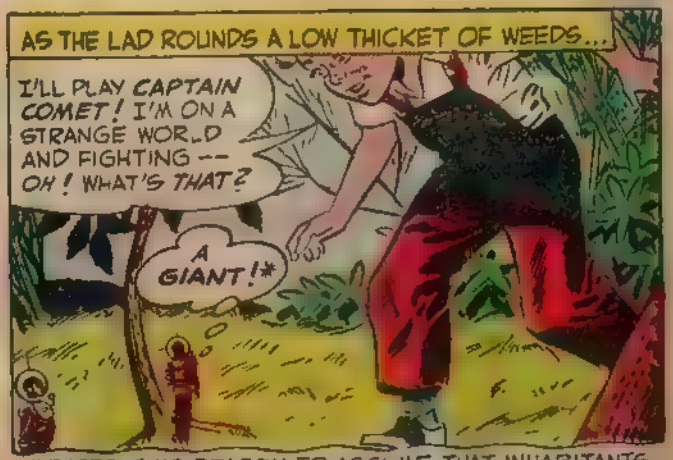
IN 12 HOURS OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION, OUR BODIES WILL BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO THIS STRANGE ATMOSPHERE! TILL THEN WE **MUST** RISK DISCOVERY! UGHH--THE TABLET IS TAKING EFFECT--STIFFENING ME LIKE THE OTHERS...

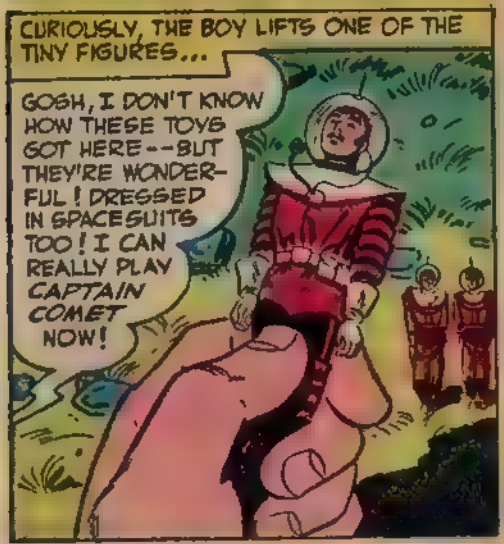
WITH THE FIRST MORNING LIGHT...

ONLY ONE HOUR MORE--THEN WE WILL ALL SPRING TO LIFE AGAIN--AND BE ABLE TO BEGIN OPERATIONS AGAINST THE INHABITANTS OF THIS PLANET! THAT NOISE--?

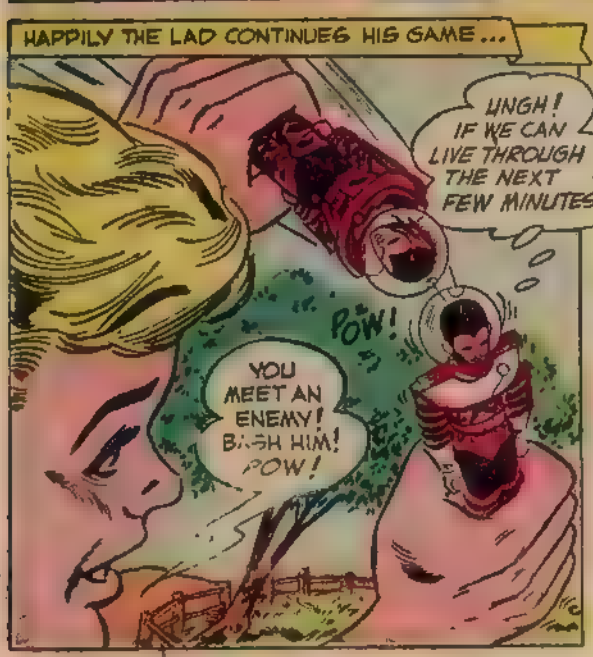
CRASH!

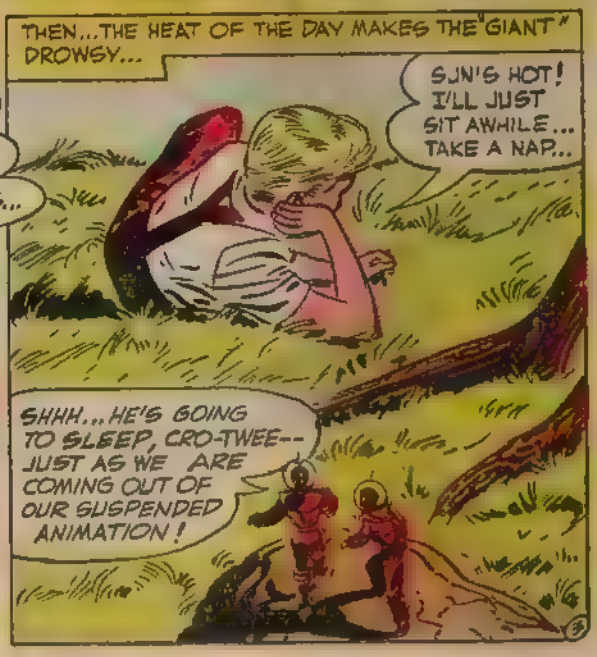

NEARBY A SMALL BOY SKIPS THROUGH THE WOODS...
MAMA SAYS I'M ALWAYS BREAKING THINGS! SHE WON'T LET ME HAVE ANY NEW TOYS-- SO I HAVE TO HUNT IN THE WOODS FOR THINGS TO PLAY WITH!
CRUNCH!

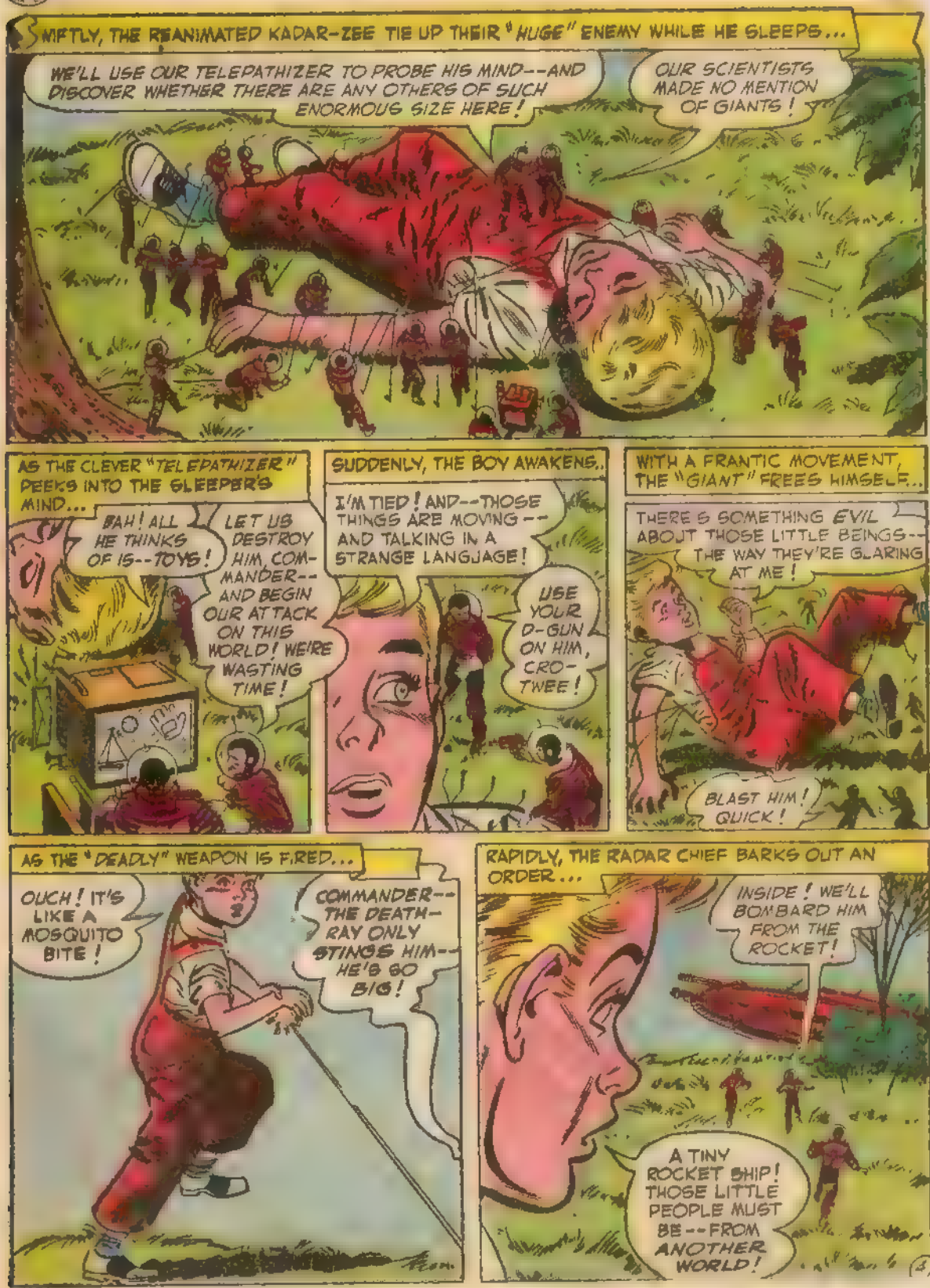


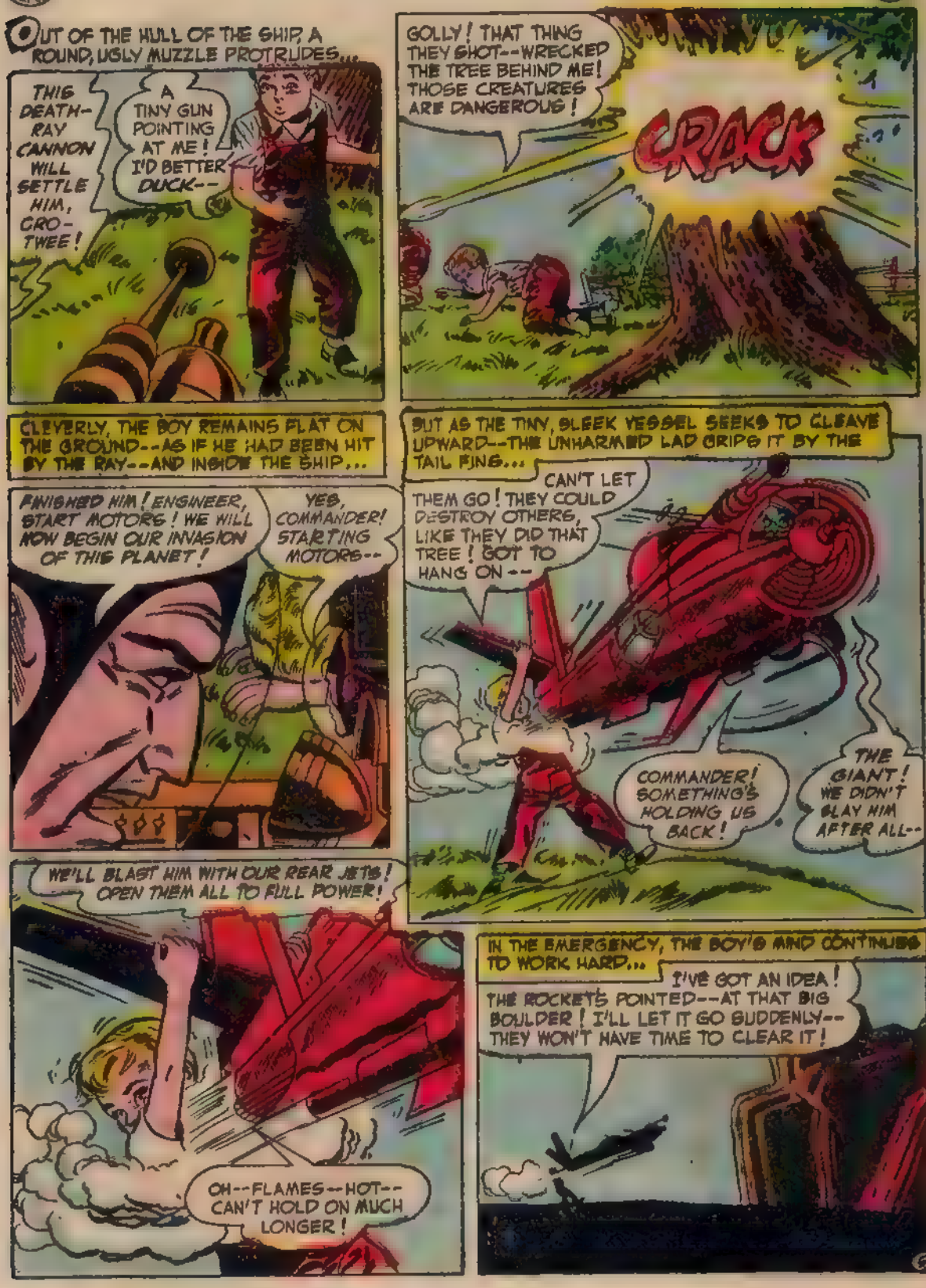

CURIOUSLY, THE BOY LIFTS ONE OF THE TINY FIGURES...
GOSH, I DON'T KNOW HOW THESE TOYS GOT HERE--BUT THEY'RE WONDERFUL! DRESSED IN SPACESUITS TOO! I CAN REALLY PLAY CAPTAIN COMET NOW!

* THERE IS NO REASON TO ASSUME THAT INHABITANTS OF OTHER WORLDS WOULD BE THE SAME AVERAGE HEIGHT OF EARTHMEN! THUS, BY EARTH STANDARDS, THE PEOPLE OF *KADAR ZEE* ARE ONLY SIX INCHES TALL!




THEN...THE HEAT OF THE DAY MAKES THE "GIANT" DROWSY...
SUN'S HOT! I'LL JUST SIT AWHILE... TAKE A NAP...
SHHH... HE'S GOING TO SLEEP, CRO-TWEE-- JUST AS WE ARE COMING OUT OF OUR SUSPENDED ANIMATION!


SWIFTLY, THE REANIMATED KADAR-ZEE TIE UP THEIR "HUGE" ENEMY WHILE HE SLEEPS...
WE'LL USE OUR TELEPATHIZER TO PROBE HIS MIND--AND DISCOVER WHETHER THERE ARE ANY OTHERS OF SUCH ENORMOUS SIZE HERE!
OUR SCIENTISTS MADE NO MENTION OF GIANTS!
AS THE CLEVER "TELEPATHIZER" PEEKS INTO THE SLEEPER'S MIND...
BAH! ALL HE THINKS OF IS--TOYS!
LET US DESTROY HIM, COMMANDER--AND BEGIN OUR ATTACK ON THIS WORLD! WE'RE WASTING TIME!
SUDDENLY, THE BOY AWAKENS..
I'M TIED! AND--THOSE THINGS ARE MOVING--AND TALKING IN A STRANGE LANGUAGE!
USE YOUR D-GUN ON HIM, CRO-TWEE!
WITH A FRANTIC MOVEMENT, THE "GIANT" FREES HIMSELF..
THERE'S SOMETHING EVIL ABOUT THOSE LITTLE BEINGS--THE WAY THEY'RE GLARING AT ME!
BLAST HIM! QUICK!
AS THE "DEADLY" WEAPON IS FIRED...
OUCH! IT'S LIKE A MOSQUITO BITE!
COMMANDER--THE DEATH-RAY ONLY STINGS HIM--HE'S SO BIG!
RAPIDLY, THE RADAR CHIEF BARKS OUT AN ORDER...
INSIDE! WE'LL BOMBARD HIM FROM THE ROCKET!
A TINY ROCKET SHIP! THOSE LITTLE PEOPLE MUST BE--FROM ANOTHER WORLD!


OUT OF THE HULL OF THE SHIP, A ROUND, UGLY MUZZLE PROTRUDES...
THIS DEATH-RAY CANNON WILL SETTLE HIM, GRO-TWEE!
A TINY GUN POINTING AT ME! I'D BETTER DUCK--
GOLLY! THAT THING THEY SHOT--WRECKED THE TREE BEHIND ME! THOSE CREATURES ARE DANGEROUS!
CRACK
CLEVERLY, THE BOY REMAINS FLAT ON THE GROUND--AS IF HE HAD BEEN HIT BY THE RAY--AND INSIDE THE SHIP...
FINISHED HIM! ENGINEER, START MOTORS! WE WILL NOW BEGIN OUR INVASION OF THIS PLANET!
YES, COMMANDER! STARTING MOTORS--
BUT AS THE TINY, SLEEK VESSEL SEEKS TO CLEAVE UPWARD--THE UNHARMED LAD GRIPS IT BY THE TAIL FINS...
CAN'T LET THEM GO! THEY COULD DESTROY OTHERS, LIKE THEY DID THAT TREE! GOT TO HANG ON --
COMMANDER! SOMETHING'S HOLDING US BACK!
THE GIANT! WE DIDN'T SLAY HIM AFTER ALL--
WE'LL BLAST HIM WITH OUR REAR JETS! OPEN THEM ALL TO FULL POWER!
OH--FLAMES--HOT--CAN'T HOLD ON MUCH LONGER!
IN THE EMERGENCY, THE BOY'S MIND CONTINUES TO WORK HARD...
I'VE GOT AN IDEA! THE ROCKET'S POINTED--AT THAT BIG BOULDER! I'LL LET IT GO SUDDENLY--THEY WON'T HAVE TIME TO CLEAR IT!

THE NEXT MOMENT--AS THE QUICK-THINKING LAD CARRIES OUT HIS SCHEME...

CRASH!

I DID IT! THE LITTLE SHIP IS SMASHED TO SMITHEREENS!

AT THAT INSTANT--ON THE WORLD OF KADAR ZEE...

EXCELLENCY! THE AUTOMATIC SENDER ON OUR INVASION ROCKET SHOWS THAT THE ROCKET AND ITS CREW HAVE JUST BEEN COMPLETELY DESTROYED!

IMPOSSIBLE!

OUR SCIENTISTS CALCULATED EVERY DETAIL IN ADVANCE! WHAT COULD HAVE GONE WRONG?

I CAN'T IMAGINE, EXCELLENCY--AND NOW WE MAY NEVER KNOW!

MEANWHILE...IN THE BOY'S HOME ON THE EDGE OF THE SMALL TOWN WHERE HE LIVES...

MOMMY, YOU'RE ALWAYS BREAKING YOUR TOYS!

MOM, THIS ISN'T A TOY--

OH, WHAT'S THE USE! SHE JUST WON'T LISTEN TO ME!

THE END!

6

ADVERTISEMENT

OUT OF THIS WORLD by Necco

THE TAIL OF A COMET ALWAYS POINTS AWAY FROM THE SUN NO MATTER WHICH WAY THE COMET IS HEADING.

THIS MEANS THAT AT TIMES THE TAIL LEADS THE COMET.

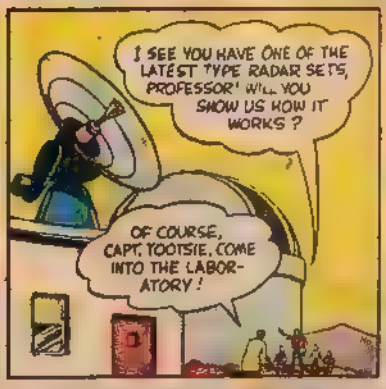
WHEN YOU'RE ON THE TRAIL OF A DELICIOUS CANDY TREAT, Necco WAFERS ARE ALWAYS IN THE LEAD!

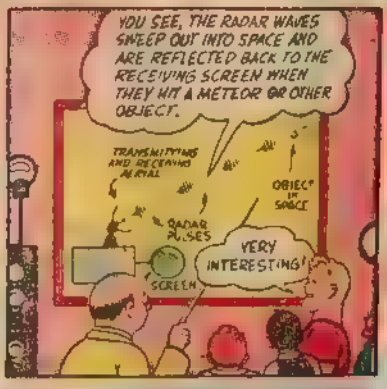
Necco

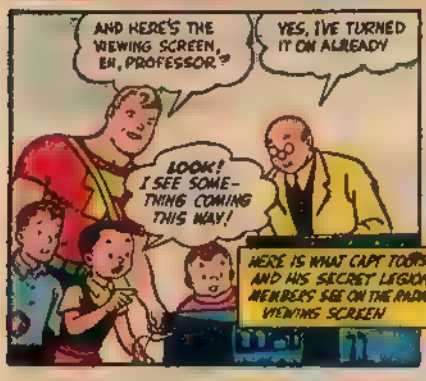
A LOT FOR A LITTLE!

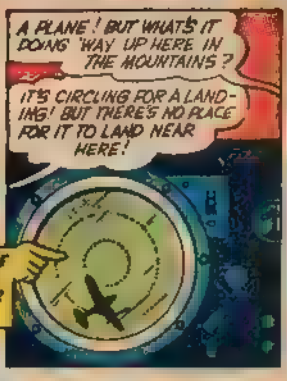
Captain Tootsie and his RADAR RESCUE

CAPT. TOOTSIE AND THE SECRET LEGION VISIT A MOUNTAIN-TOP OBSERVATORY.
THERE IT IS, MEN! THE PROFESSOR IS GOING TO LET US HELP HIM WATCH FOR METEORS BY RADAR TONIGHT!
THAT'LL BE SWELL, CAPTAIN TOOTSIE!

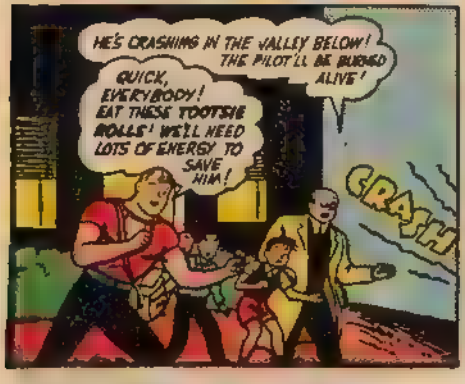

I SEE YOU HAVE ONE OF THE LATEST TYPE RADAR SETS, PROFESSOR! WILL YOU SHOW US HOW IT WORKS?
OF COURSE, CAPT. TOOTSIE. COME INTO THE LABORATORY!


YOU SEE, THE RADAR WAVES SWEEP OUT INTO SPACE AND ARE REFLECTED BACK TO THE RECEIVING SCREEN WHEN THEY HIT A METEOR OR OTHER OBJECT.
TRANSMITTING AND RECEIVING AERIAL
OBJECT IN SPACE
RADAR PULSES
SCREEN
VERY INTERESTING!


AND HERE'S THE VIEWING SCREEN, EH, PROFESSOR?
YES, I'VE TURNED IT ON ALREADY
LOOK! I SEE SOMETHING COMING THIS WAY!
HERE IS WHAT CAPT TOOTSIE AND HIS SECRET LEGION MEMBERS SEE ON THE RADAR VIEWING SCREEN

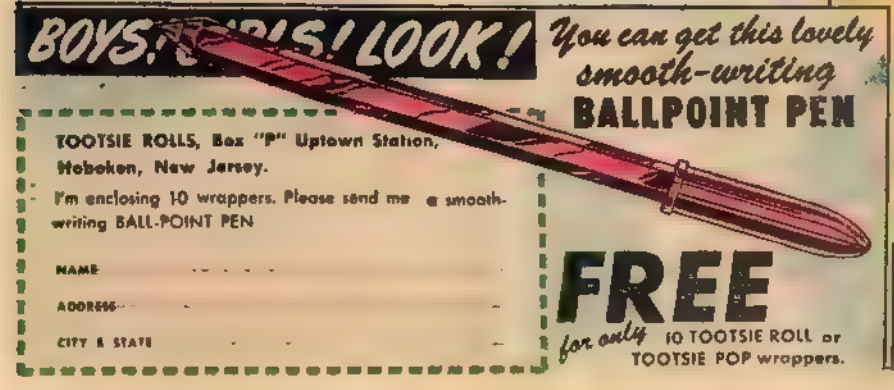

A PLANE! BUT WHAT'S IT DOING WAY UP HERE IN THE MOUNTAINS?
IT'S CIRCLING FOR A LANDING! BUT THERE'S NO PLACE FOR IT TO LAND NEAR HERE!

HELLO, AIRPORT! HELLO, AIRPORT! BLAST IT, MY RADIO'S OUT AND I'M LOST IN THESE MOUNTAINS! HAVE TO TRY A CRASH LANDING!


HE'S CRASHING IN THE VALLEY BELOW! THE PILOT'LL BE BURNED ALIVE!
QUICK, EVERYBODY! EAT THESE TOOTSIE ROLLS! WE'LL NEED LOTS OF ENERGY TO SAVE HIM!
CRASH

THERE GO THE TANKS! YOU GOT US AWAY JUST IN TIME!

Tootsie Rolls
only 2¢
Tootsie Roll
A good, wholesome candy — with a flavor all its own. Mm-m!
Tootsie POPS 2¢
Tootsie POP
CHERRY CHOCOLATE ORANGE LEMON LIME
DELICIOUS CHEWY TOOTSIE ROLL CENTER


BOYS! GIRLS! LOOK!
You can get this lovely smooth-writing BALLPOINT PEN
TOOTSIE ROLLS, Box "P" Uptown Station, Hoboken, New Jersey.
I'm enclosing 10 wrappers. Please send me a smooth-writing BALL-POINT PEN
NAME
ADDRESS
CITY & STATE
FREE
for only 10 TOOTSIE ROLL or TOOTSIE POP wrappers.

The Man Who Hated SCIENCE!

Story by JACK MILLER

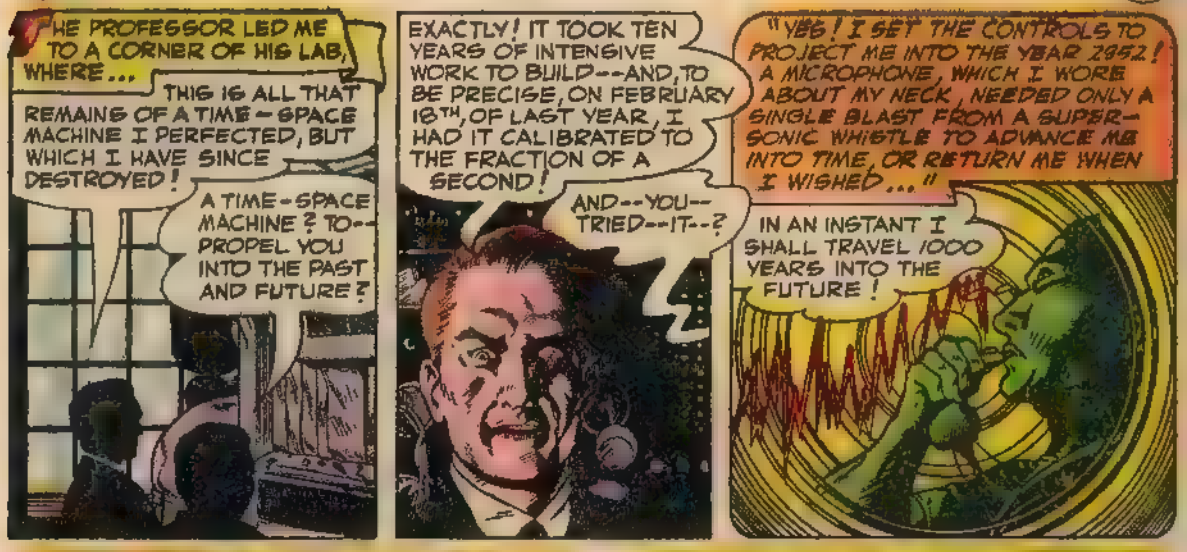
WHY DID THE BRILLIANT PROFESSOR MASON HALLOWAY SUDDENLY REBEL AGAINST SCIENCE? WHAT MADNESS POSSESSED THIS GENIUS TO CONDUCT A ONE-MAN WAR AGAINST SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS? IS HIS STORY A WARNING TO US--OR THE RAVINGS OF A WARPED MIND? HERE ARE THE FACTS--THE CHOICE IS YOURS TO MAKE!

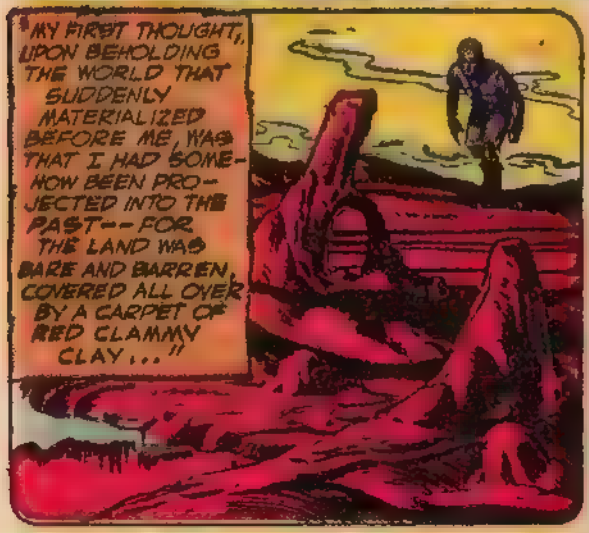
MY NAME IS MAXWELL HASKINS, PSYCHIATRIST. I HAVE PROBED DEEP INTO THE DARK RECESSES OF MANY MINDS GONE OUT OF KILTER, BUT NEVER A MORE ILLUSTRIOUS ONE THAN THAT OF PROFESSOR MASON HALLOWAY. ONE DAY I RECEIVED AN URGENT SUMMONS FROM MRS. HALLOWAY...

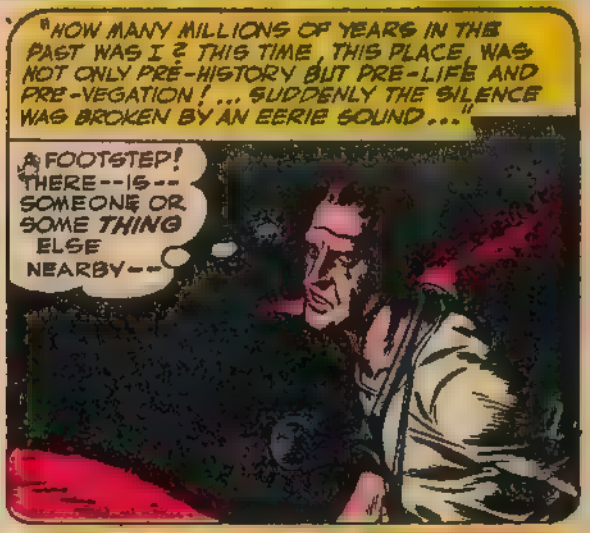
YOU MUST HELP MY HUSBAND, DOCTOR--HE HAS ALREADY SMASHED EVERY INSTRUMENT AND TEST-TUBE IN HIS LABORATORY--AND THOSE DREADFUL SPEECHES OF HIS--!

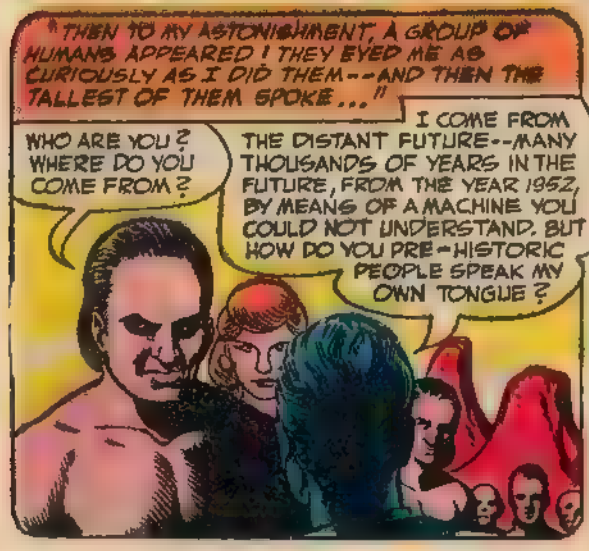
MOMENTS LATER, IN THE FAMOUS SCIENTIST'S LABORATORY...

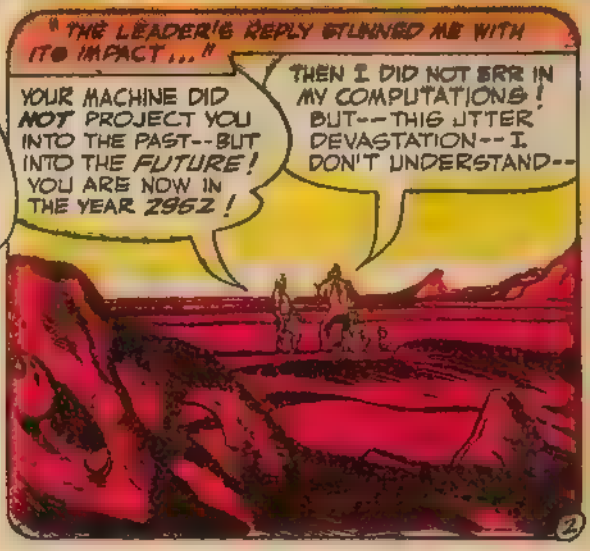
SO MY FAMILY HAS BROUGHT YOU HERE TO DETERMINE THE STATE OF MY SANITY, EH? VERY WELL, I SHALL TELL YOU THE WHOLE STORY--AND THEN YOU TOO CAN JUDGE ME MAD--IF YOU DARE!

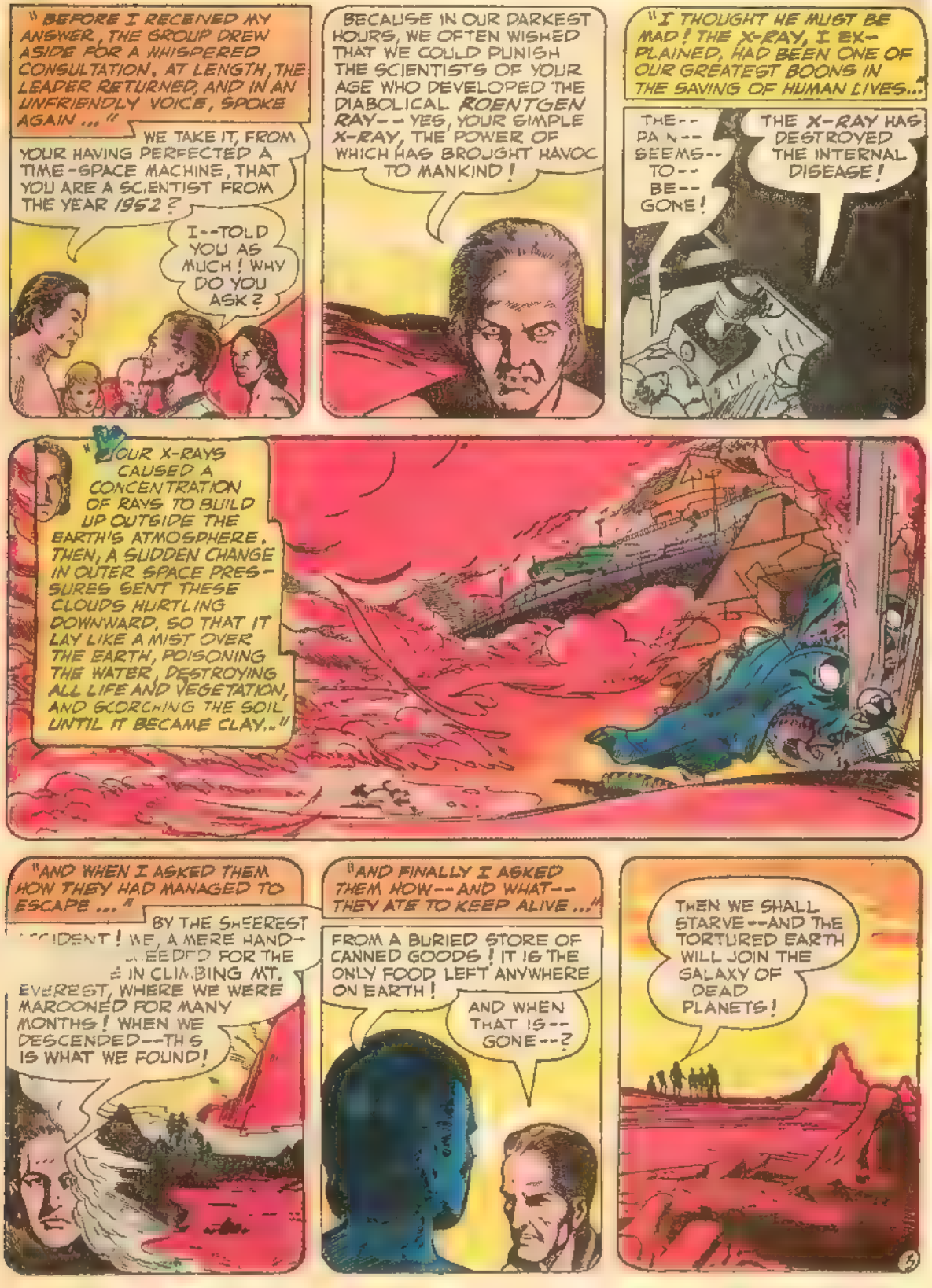

THE PROFESSOR LED ME TO A CORNER OF HIS LAB, WHERE...
THIS IS ALL THAT REMAINS OF A TIME-SPACE MACHINE I PERFECTED, BUT WHICH I HAVE SINCE DESTROYED!
A TIME-SPACE MACHINE? TO--PROPEL YOU INTO THE PAST AND FUTURE?
EXACTLY! IT TOOK TEN YEARS OF INTENSIVE WORK TO BUILD--AND, TO BE PRECISE, ON FEBRUARY 18TH, OF LAST YEAR, I HAD IT CALIBRATED TO THE FRACTION OF A SECOND!
AND--YOU--TRIED--IT--?
"YES! I SET THE CONTROLS TO PROJECT ME INTO THE YEAR 2952! A MICROPHONE, WHICH I WORE ABOUT MY NECK, NEEDED ONLY A SINGLE BLAST FROM A SUPER-SONIC WHISTLE TO ADVANCE ME INTO TIME, OR RETURN ME WHEN I WISHED..."
IN AN INSTANT I SHALL TRAVEL 1000 YEARS INTO THE FUTURE!

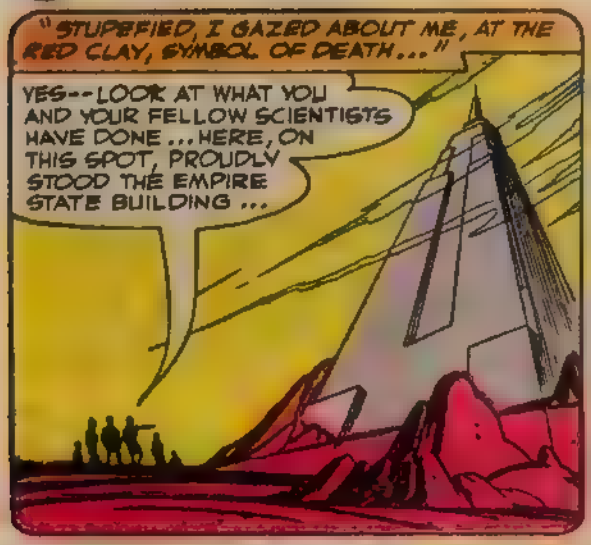

"MY FIRST THOUGHT, UPON BEHOLDING THE WORLD THAT SUDDENLY MATERIALIZED BEFORE ME, WAS THAT I HAD SOMEHOW BEEN PROJECTED INTO THE PAST--FOR THE LAND WAS BARE AND BARREN, COVERED ALL OVER BY A CARPET OF RED CLAMMY CLAY..."

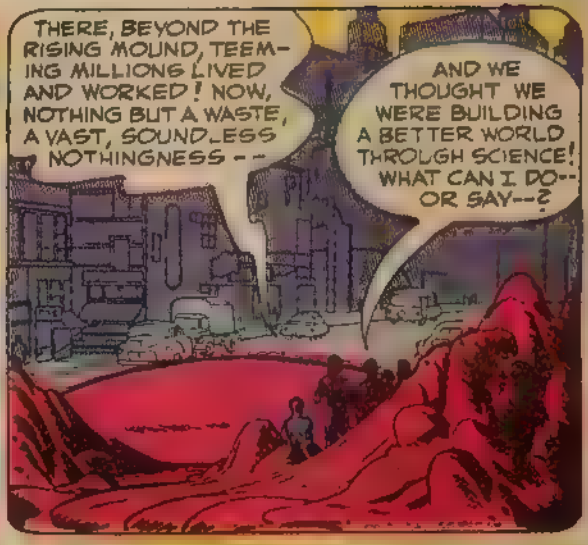

"HOW MANY MILLIONS OF YEARS IN THE PAST WAS I? THIS TIME, THIS PLACE, WAS NOT ONLY PRE-HISTORY BUT PRE-LIFE AND PRE-VEGATION!... SUDDENLY THE SILENCE WAS BROKEN BY AN EERIE SOUND..."
A FOOTSTEP! THERE--IS--SOMEONE OR SOME THING ELSE NEARBY--

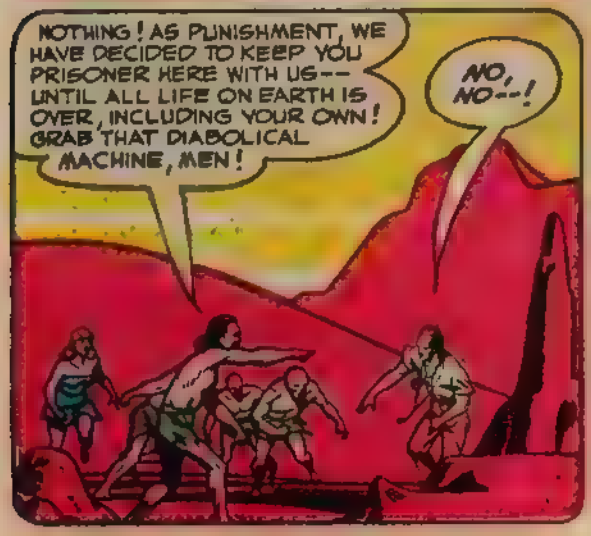

"THEN TO MY ASTONISHMENT, A GROUP OF HUMANS APPEARED! THEY EYED ME AS CURIOUSLY AS I DID THEM--AND THEN THE TALLEST OF THEM SPOKE..."
WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?
I COME FROM THE DISTANT FUTURE--MANY THOUSANDS OF YEARS IN THE FUTURE, FROM THE YEAR 1952, BY MEANS OF A MACHINE YOU COULD NOT UNDERSTAND. BUT HOW DO YOU PRE-HISTORIC PEOPLE SPEAK MY OWN TONGUE?

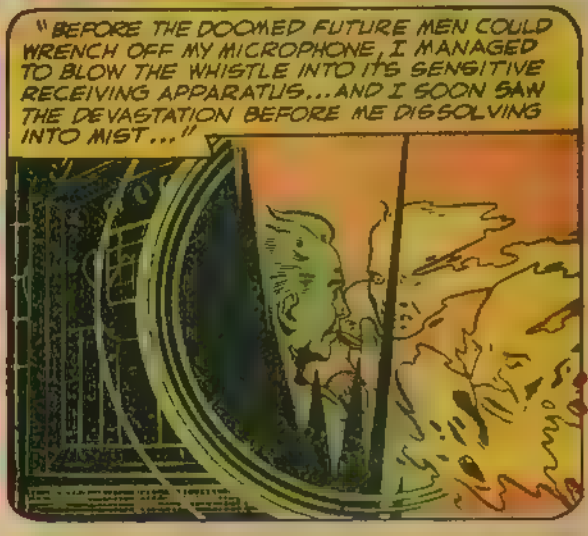

"THE LEADER'S REPLY STUNNED ME WITH ITS IMPACT..."
YOUR MACHINE DID NOT PROJECT YOU INTO THE PAST--BUT INTO THE FUTURE! YOU ARE NOW IN THE YEAR 2952!
THEN I DID NOT ERR IN MY COMPUTATIONS! BUT--THIS UTTER DEVASTATION--I DON'T UNDERSTAND--


"BEFORE I RECEIVED MY ANSWER, THE GROUP DREW ASIDE FOR A WHISPERED CONSULTATION. AT LENGTH, THE LEADER RETURNED, AND IN AN UNFRIENDLY VOICE, SPOKE AGAIN ..."
WE TAKE IT, FROM YOUR HAVING PERFECTED A TIME-SPACE MACHINE, THAT YOU ARE A SCIENTIST FROM THE YEAR 1952?
I--TOLD YOU AS MUCH! WHY DO YOU ASK?
BECAUSE IN OUR DARKEST HOURS, WE OFTEN WISHED THAT WE COULD PUNISH THE SCIENTISTS OF YOUR AGE WHO DEVELOPED THE DIABOLICAL ROENTGEN RAY--YES, YOUR SIMPLE X-RAY, THE POWER OF WHICH HAS BROUGHT HAVOC TO MANKIND!
"I THOUGHT HE MUST BE MAD! THE X-RAY, I EXPLAINED, HAD BEEN ONE OF OUR GREATEST BOONS IN THE SAVING OF HUMAN LIVES..."
THE--PAIN--SEEMS--TO--BE--GONE!
THE X-RAY HAS DESTROYED THE INTERNAL DISEASE!
"YOUR X-RAYS CAUSED A CONCENTRATION OF RAYS TO BUILD UP OUTSIDE THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE. THEN, A SUDDEN CHANGE IN OUTER SPACE PRESSURES SENT THESE CLOUDS HURTLING DOWNWARD, SO THAT IT LAY LIKE A MIST OVER THE EARTH, POISONING THE WATER, DESTROYING ALL LIFE AND VEGETATION, AND SCORCHING THE SOIL UNTIL IT BECAME CLAY."
"AND WHEN I ASKED THEM HOW THEY HAD MANAGED TO ESCAPE ..."
BY THE SHEEREST ACCIDENT! WE, A MERE HANDFUL OF SEEDED FOR THE [illegible] IN CLIMBING MT. EVEREST, WHERE WE WERE MAROONED FOR MANY MONTHS! WHEN WE DESCENDED--THIS IS WHAT WE FOUND!
"AND FINALLY I ASKED THEM HOW--AND WHAT--THEY ATE TO KEEP ALIVE ..."
FROM A BURIED STORE OF CANNED GOODS! IT IS THE ONLY FOOD LEFT ANYWHERE ON EARTH!
AND WHEN THAT IS--GONE--?
THEN WE SHALL STARVE--AND THE TORTURED EARTH WILL JOIN THE GALAXY OF DEAD PLANETS!

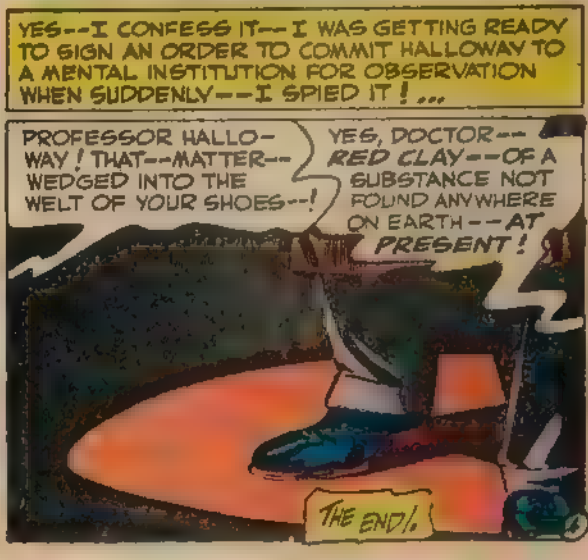

"STUPEFIED, I GAZED ABOUT ME, AT THE RED CLAY, SYMBOL OF DEATH..."
YES--LOOK AT WHAT YOU AND YOUR FELLOW SCIENTISTS HAVE DONE...HERE, ON THIS SPOT, PROUDLY STOOD THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING...


THERE, BEYOND THE RISING MOUND, TEEMING MILLIONS LIVED AND WORKED! NOW, NOTHING BUT A WASTE, A VAST, SOUNDLESS NOTHINGNESS--
AND WE THOUGHT WE WERE BUILDING A BETTER WORLD THROUGH SCIENCE! WHAT CAN I DO--OR SAY--?


NOTHING! AS PUNISHMENT, WE HAVE DECIDED TO KEEP YOU PRISONER HERE WITH US--UNTIL ALL LIFE ON EARTH IS OVER, INCLUDING YOUR OWN! GRAB THAT DIABOLICAL MACHINE, MEN!
NO, NO--!

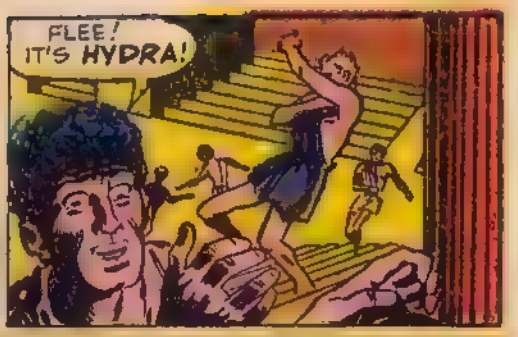

"BEFORE THE DOOMED FUTURE MEN COULD WRENCH OFF MY MICROPHONE, I MANAGED TO BLOW THE WHISTLE INTO ITS SENSITIVE RECEIVING APPARATUS...AND I SOON SAW THE DEVASTATION BEFORE ME DISSOLVING INTO MIST..."

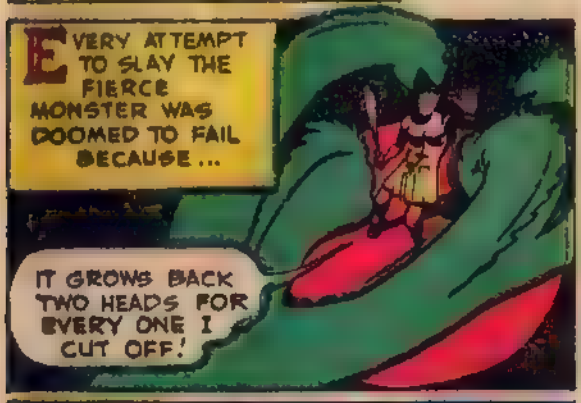
HALLOWAY WAS SILENT FOR A LONG MOMENT AFTER FINISHING HIS STORY. AT LENGTH, HE TURNED TO ME...
WELL--THAT'S IT! WHAT IS THE DIAGNOSIS OF THE EGTEEMED DOCTOR OF THE MIND? IS YOUR PATIENT A RAVING LUNATIC?
WHY, I WOULDN'T SAY THAT, PROFESSOR--BUT I DO BELIEVE THAT A LONG REST WOULD--


YES--I CONFESS IT--I WAS GETTING READY TO SIGN AN ORDER TO COMMIT HALLOWAY TO A MENTAL INSTITUTION FOR OBSERVATION WHEN SUDDENLY--I SPIED IT!...
PROFESSOR HALLOWAY! THAT--MATTER--WEDGED INTO THE WELT OF YOUR SHOES--!
YES, DOCTOR--RED CLAY--OF A SUBSTANCE NOT FOUND ANYWHERE ON EARTH--AT PRESENT!
THE END!

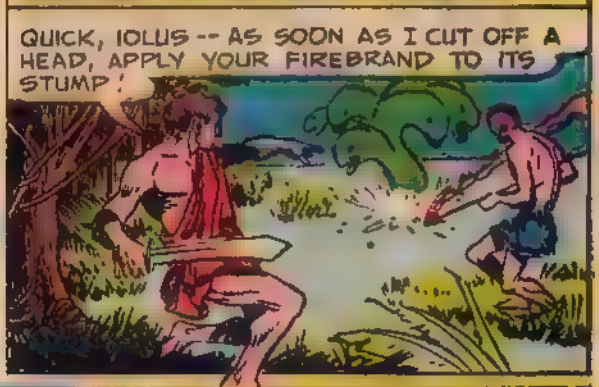
Stars AND THEIR LEGENDS

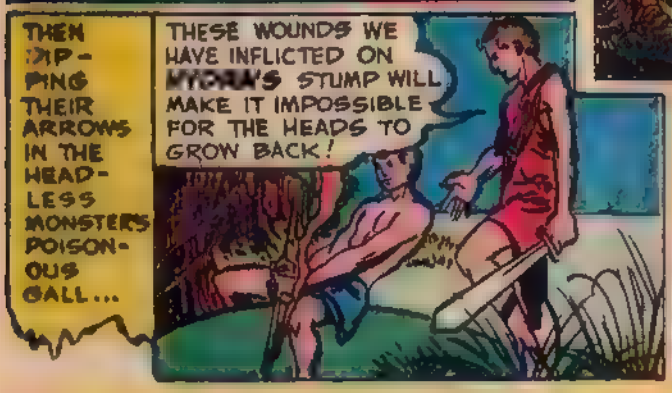
TIME AND AGAIN, THE ANCIENT GREEK TOWN OF ARGOLIS WAS TERRORIZED BY THE APPEARANCE OF THE NINE-HEADED WATER-SNAKE - **HYDRA**





INTO THE SWAMP LAIR OF **HYDRA** STRODE THE FAMOUS GREEK HERO **HERCULES**, ACCOMPANIED BY HIS FRIEND **IOLUS**...

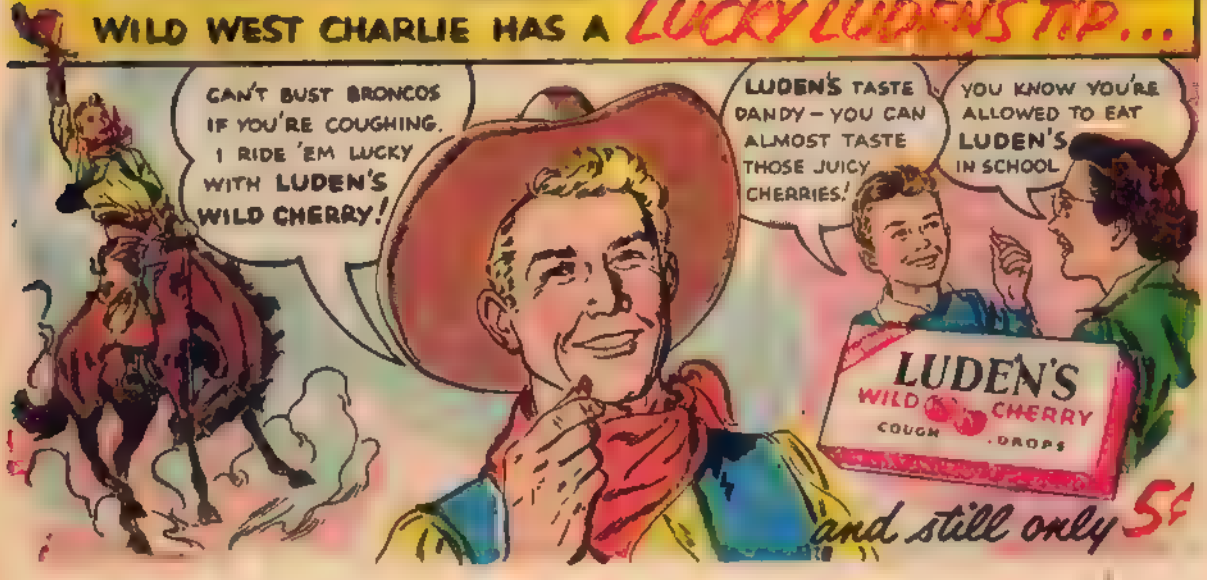



THEN DIPPING THEIR ARROWS IN THE HEADLESS MONSTER'S POISONOUS GALL...
THESE WOUNDS WE HAVE INFLICTED ON HYDRA'S STUMP WILL MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE HEADS TO GROW BACK!

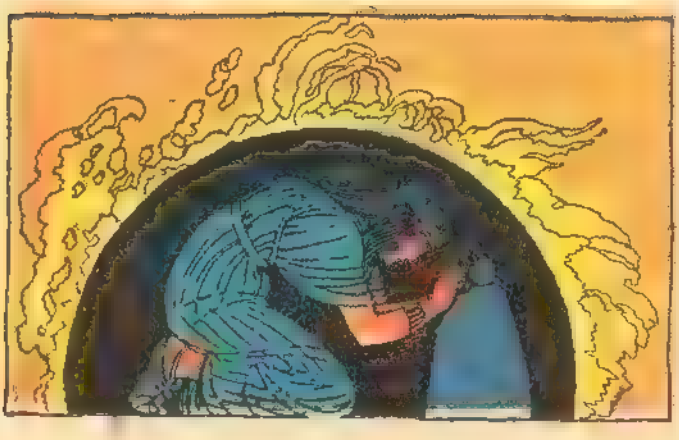
AFTER ITS DEATH, **HYDRA** WAS RAISED TO THE HEAVENS AND IS NOW SEEN AS A SOUTHERN CONSTELLATION...

ADVERTISEMENT

WILD WEST CHARLIE HAS A LUCKY LUDEN'S TIP...


CAN'T BUST BRONCOS IF YOU'RE COUGHING. I RIDE 'EM LUCKY WITH LUDEN'S WILD CHERRY!
LUDEN'S TASTE DANDY - YOU CAN ALMOST TASTE THOSE JUICY CHERRIES!
YOU KNOW YOU'RE ALLOWED TO EAT LUDEN'S IN SCHOOL
LUDEN'S
WILD CHERRY
COUGH DROPS

and still only 5¢



WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE SUN?

(The 15 statements that follow are designed to test your knowledge of the *sun*. If in your opinion the facts as stated are entirely correct, answer *true;* but if they are all or even partly erroneous, answer *false*. For each number correctly answered, credit yourself with 3 points.)

TRUE-FALSE

1. The sun is the only star that is close enough to earth to permit its features to be examined in detail.

2. The major part of the sun's radiation is perceptible as sunlight.

3. The average surface temperature of the sun is about 10,000° F.

4. The sun is more than a million times bigger than the earth.

5. Viewed through a dark glass, the sun appears as a round disk.

6. Once a sunspot appears on the surface of the sun, it becomes a permanent fixture.

7. The element helium was detected in the sun long before it was discovered on earth.

8. Solar prominences can be observed only at the time of a total eclipse.

9. The total brightness of the sun's corona does not exceed half that of the full moon.

10. Sunspots first come into view at the sun's western edge, and move gradually across the disk from day to day.

11. The form of the corona always appears the same.

12. Sunspots near the poles move more swiftly around the sun than sunspots near the equator.

13. The outermost layer of the sun—the corona—can be observed *only* at the time of a total eclipse.

14. The path of sunspots across the sun, which are parallel to the sun's equator, are generally curved.

15. There is no adequate explanation as to the origin of sunspots.

MULTIPLE CHOICE

(Herewith are presented 10 more facts about the sun. However, only *one* of a trio of statements is correct. Spot the correct one and take 2 points.)

1. The sun contains about (a) 50%, (b) 75%, (c) 99.9% of the material in the whole solar system.

2. The total rate of energy output of the

sun is about (a) 5×10^{13}, (b) 5×10^{23}, (c) 5×100^{33} horsepower.

3. The sun's diameter is about (a) 10, (b) 109, (c) 1090 times greater than the earth's.

4. Each sunspot is sharply divided into two parts: the *umbra*, the dark, inner part, and the lighter (a) penumbra, (b) subumbra, (c) co-umbra around it.

5. A person weighing 100 pounds on the earth would weigh nearly (a) 30, (b) 300, (c) 3000 pounds on the sun.

6. The lower part of the sun's atmosphere is frequently referred to as the (a) reversing layer, (b) ionosphere, (c) troposphere.

7. Sunspots near the sun's equator go completely around the sun in (a) 5, (b) 15, (c) 25 days.

8. The famous Fraunhofer lines are identified with the sun's (a) eclipse, (b) spectrum, (c) temperature

9. The so-called "eruptive prominences" of the sun frequently extend out from the sun to a distance of (a) 500,000, (b) 5,000,000, (c) 50,000,000 miles.

10. Because of the great distance of the sun, the smallest sunspots which can be seen must be at least (a) 150, (b) 1500, (c) 150,000 miles in diameter.

MISSING WORDS

(Supply the missing word that will correctly complete the following solar statements. Each word correctly given is worth 5 points.)

1. The visible surface of the sun is called the ....

2. The total number of sunspots on the surface of the sun varies, with a somewhat regular periodicity of approximately..... ..... years.

3. The.....is usually visible at a total eclipse of the sun as a brilliant red envelope about the sun, and derives its name from this fact.

4. The number of prominences of the sun is directly correlated with the number of ....

5. The sun is a ..... star of the Go spectral class.

MATCHING COLUMNS

(In the first column is presented a series of 5 numbers. Match these numbers with their closest equivalents in the second column, and take 2 points for each correct answer.)

1. 92,897,000	A. Volume of sun as compared to earth.
2. 864,000	B. Mass of sun in tons
3. 1,300,000	C. Miles of sun from earth.
4. 2×10^{27}	D. Sun's surface temperature in degrees F.
5. 10,000	E. Mean diameter of sun in miles.

ANSWERS

True-False: 1, true. 2, false. 3, true. 4, true. 5, true. 6, false. 7, true. 8, false. 9, true. 10, false. 11, false. 12, false. 13, true. 14, true. 15, true.

Multiple Choice: 1, c. 2, b. 3, b. 4, a. 5, c. 6, a. 7, c. 8, b. 9, a. 10, a.

Missing Words: 1, photosphere. 2, eleven. 3, chromosphere. 4, sunspots. 5, dwarf.

Matching Columns: 1-C, 2-E, 3-A, 4-B, 5-D.

RATINGS

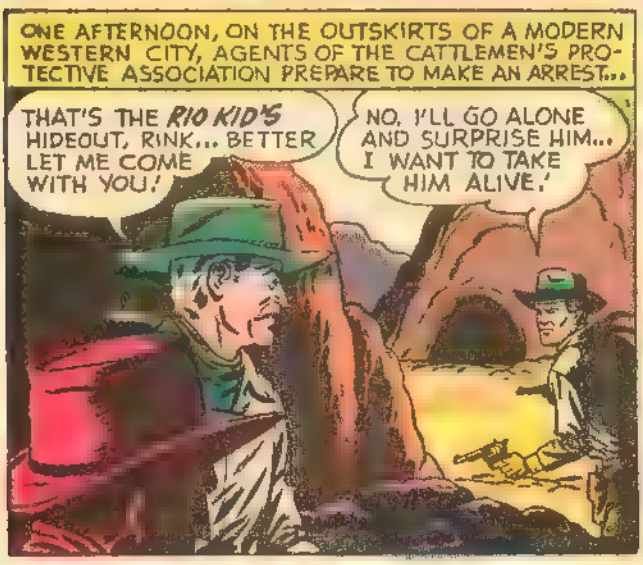
90 to 100 — Solar Expert

75 to 90 — Solar Master

60 to 75 — Solar Apprentice

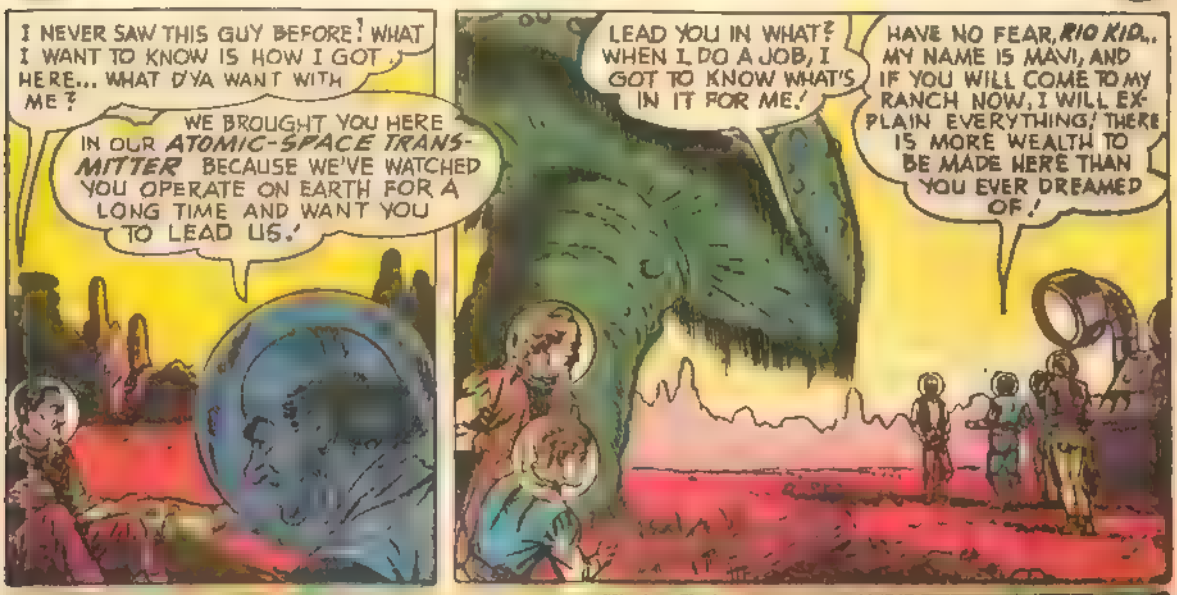
0 to 60 — Solar Dub

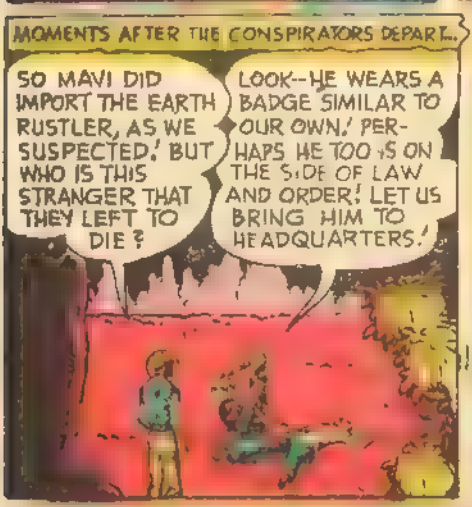
NO, YOUR EYES ARE NOT DECEIVING YOU! YOU'RE WATCHING A COW-BOY FROM EARTH, RIDING IN THE STRANGEST COMPETIT.ON EVER IMAGINED! FOR THIS IS THE FABULOUS STORY OF RINK NEVINS, STAFF AGENT FOR THE CATTLEMEN'S PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION, WHO AT ONE MOMENT WAS ROUNDING UP A RUSTLER IN A TEXAS CAVE, AND IN THE NEXT MOMENT BECAME A...
"Cowboy on MARS"
STORY BY MANNY RUBIN

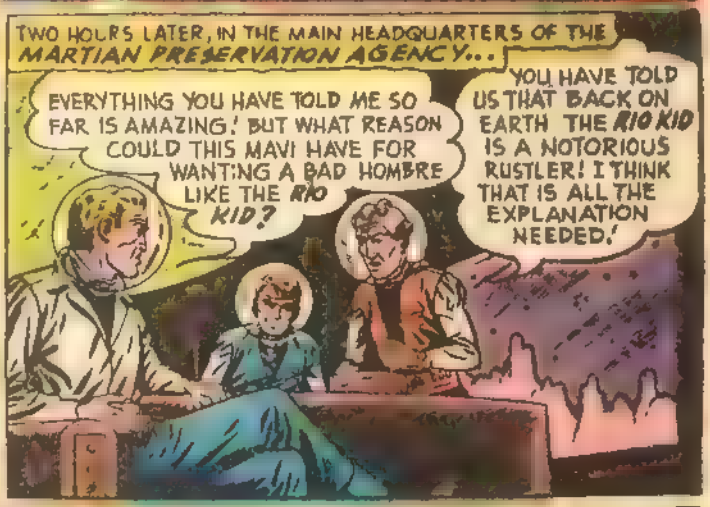

ONE AFTERNOON, ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A MODERN WESTERN CITY, AGENTS OF THE CATTLEMEN'S PRO-TECTIVE ASSOCIATION PREPARE TO MAKE AN ARREST...
THAT'S THE RIO KID'S HIDEOUT, RINK... BETTER LET ME COME WITH YOU!
NO, I'LL GO ALONE AND SURPRISE HIM... I WANT TO TAKE HIM ALIVE!

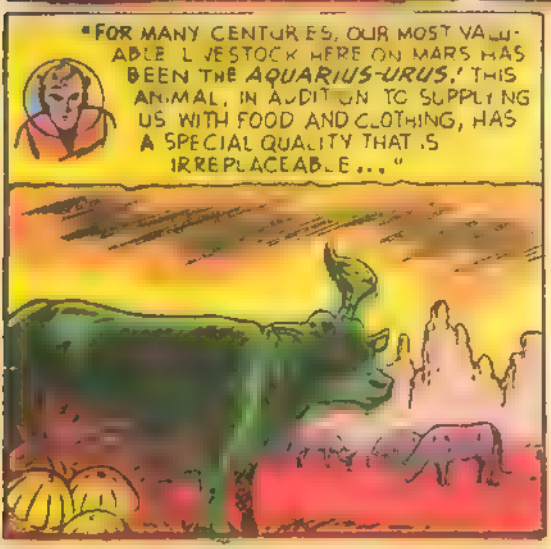
I HOPE I CAN CATCH HIM UNAWARES... WE'VE BEEN AFTER HIM TOO LONG TO LET HIM ESCAPE NOW!

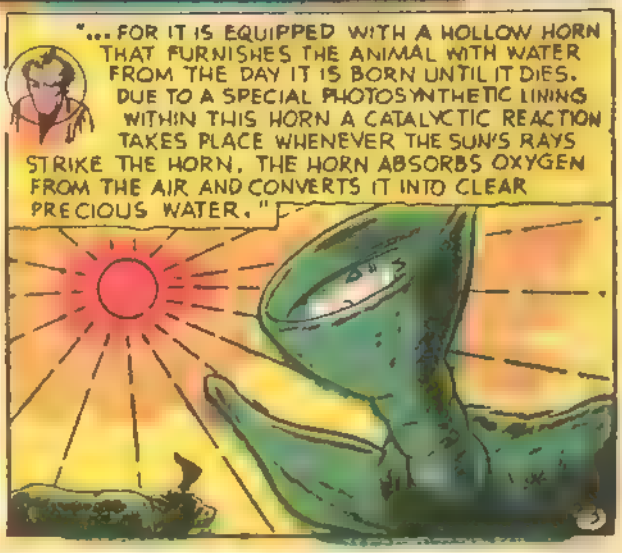
THERE HE IS.' JUST A FEW MORE FEET AND I'LL HAVE HIM...
CAUTIOUSLY, RINK NEVINS CLOSES UPON HIS OUTLAW PREY...
SIX, SEVEN, EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS... MY BEST HAUL YET.' THESE DUMB CATTLEMEN CAN'T STOP ME... I'M TOO SMART FOR THEM ALL.'
SUDDENLY, AS THE LAWMAN MAKES HIS MOVE...
OKAY, RIO, YOU'RE UNDER --OH-H-H... MY EYES.'
HUH? TH-THAT LIGHT M-MAKING ME DIZZY... WH-WHERE'S IT COMING FROM?
W-H-R-O-O-H-H!
THE BLINDING LIGHT ENCIRCLES THE TWO MEN. SLOWLY ITS RADIATION DISSOLVES INTO THEIR BODIES, DISINTEGRATING THEM...REDUCING THEM TO ETHEREAL MASSES AND SWIRLING THEM OUT INTO THE ENDLESS UNIVERSE.'
A FEW MOMENTS LATER...
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHERE AM I? WHAT'S THIS THING ON MY HEAD?
WELCOME, RIO KID, TO THE PLANET MARS.' THAT INSTRUMENT OVER YOUR HEAD PERMITS US INTERMENTAL COMMUNICATION.' BUT WHO IS THE MAN LYING NEXT TO YOU?

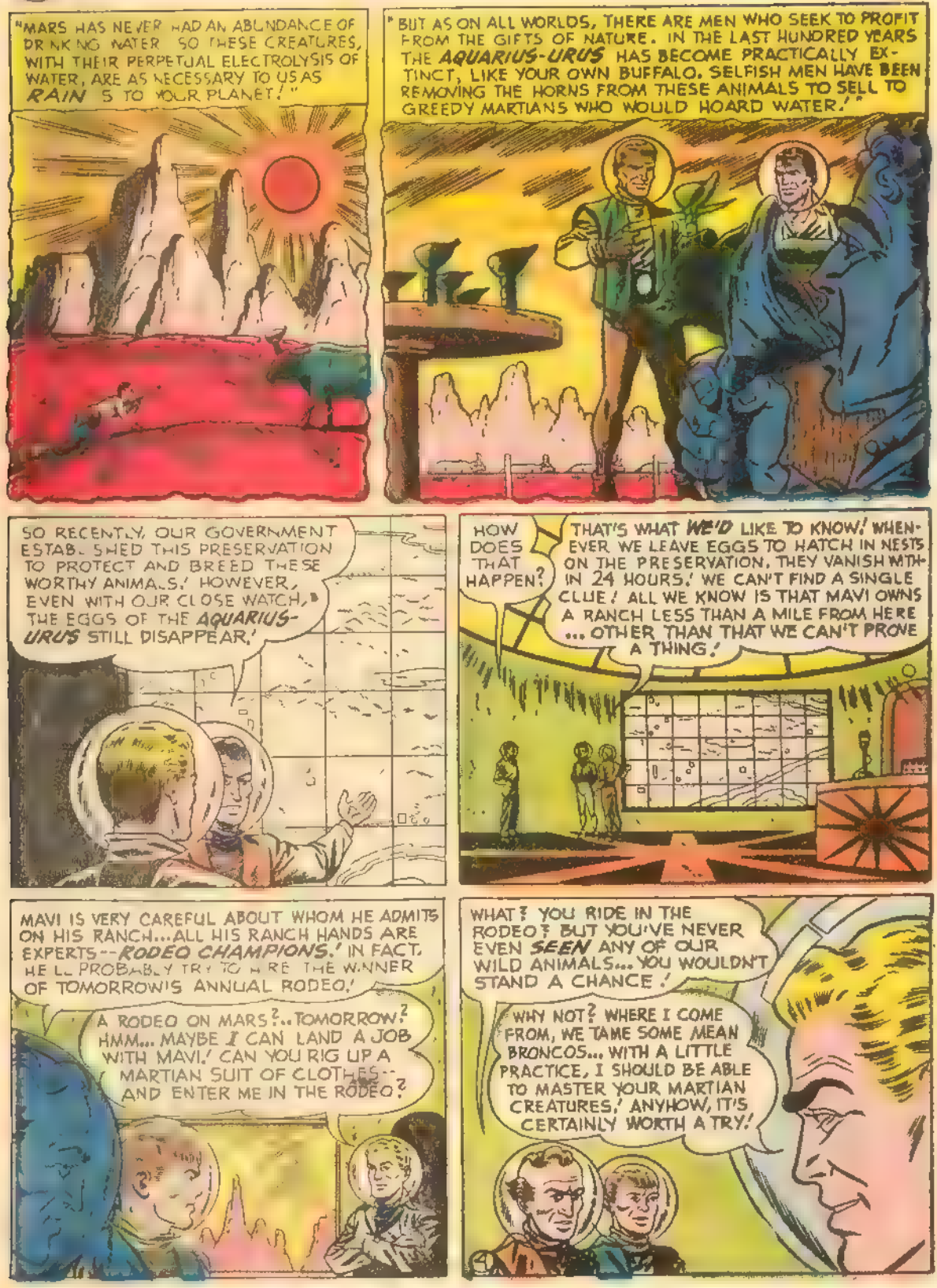

I NEVER SAW THIS GUY BEFORE! WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS HOW I GOT HERE... WHAT D'YA WANT WITH ME?
WE BROUGHT YOU HERE IN OUR ATOMIC-SPACE TRANSMITTER BECAUSE WE'VE WATCHED YOU OPERATE ON EARTH FOR A LONG TIME AND WANT YOU TO LEAD US.'
LEAD YOU IN WHAT? WHEN I DO A JOB, I GOT TO KNOW WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME.'
HAVE NO FEAR, RIO KID.. MY NAME IS MAVI, AND IF YOU WILL COME TO MY RANCH NOW, I WILL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING! THERE IS MORE WEALTH TO BE MADE HERE THAN YOU EVER DREAMED OF.'

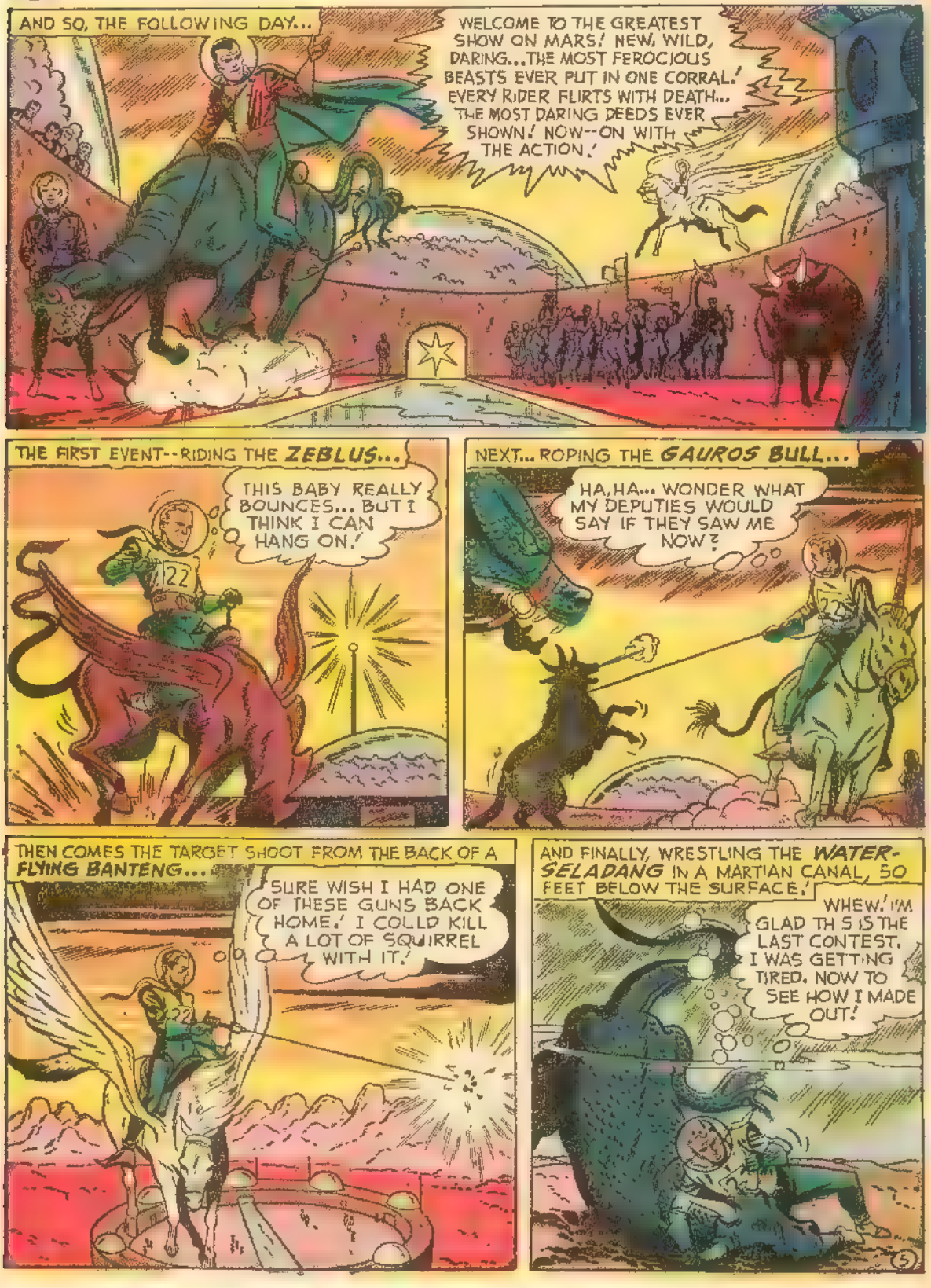

MOMENTS AFTER THE CONSPIRATORS DEPART..
SO MAVI DID IMPORT THE EARTH RUSTLER, AS WE SUSPECTED! BUT WHO IS THIS STRANGER THAT THEY LEFT TO DIE?
LOOK--HE WEARS A BADGE SIMILAR TO OUR OWN! PERHAPS HE TOO IS ON THE SIDE OF LAW AND ORDER! LET US BRING HIM TO HEADQUARTERS!

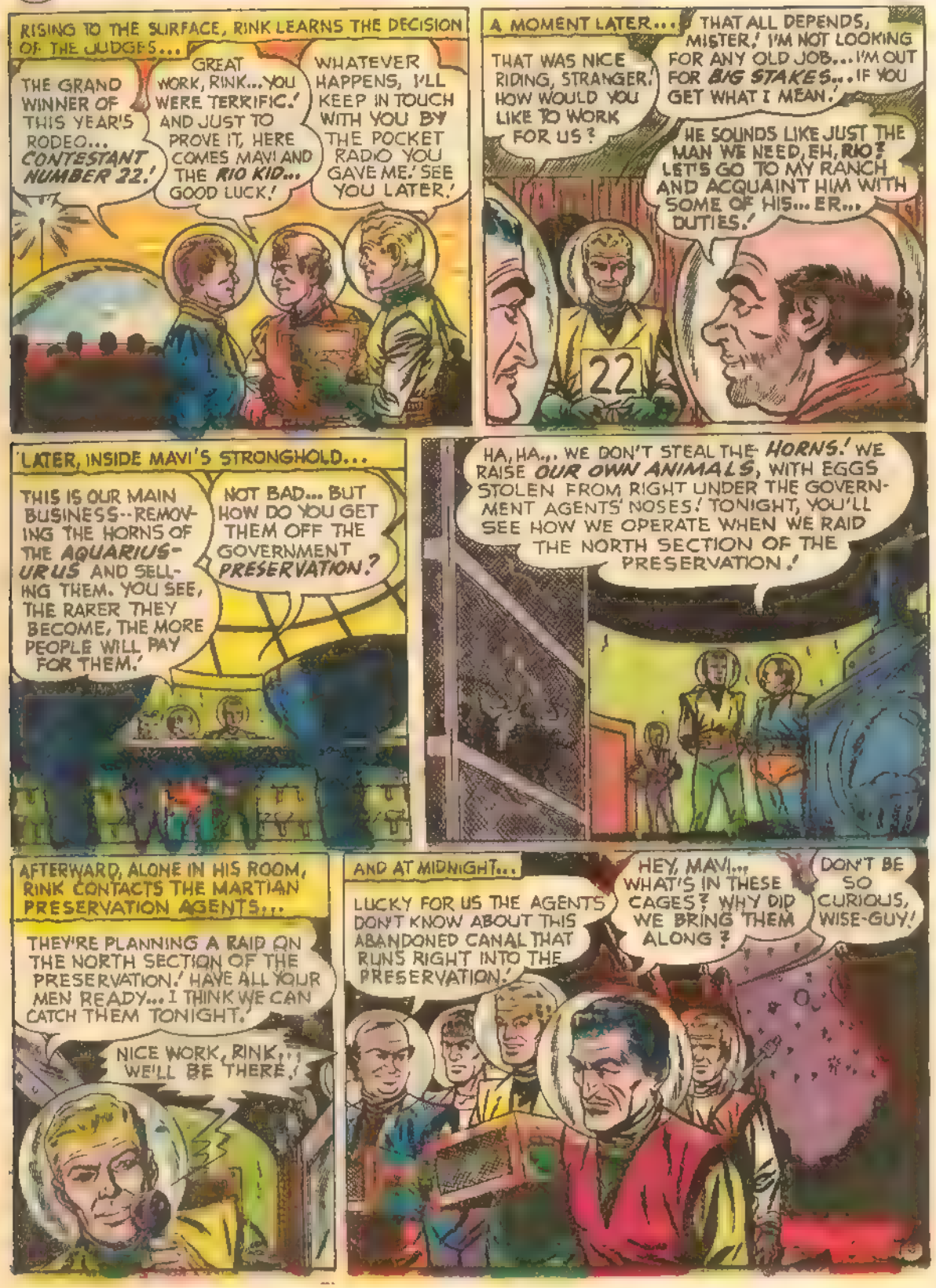

TWO HOURS LATER, IN THE MAIN HEADQUARTERS OF THE MARTIAN PRESERVATION AGENCY...
EVERYTHING YOU HAVE TOLD ME SO FAR IS AMAZING! BUT WHAT REASON COULD THIS MAVI HAVE FOR WANTING A BAD HOMBRE LIKE THE RIO KID?
YOU HAVE TOLD US THAT BACK ON EARTH THE RIO KID IS A NOTORIOUS RUSTLER! I THINK THAT IS ALL THE EXPLANATION NEEDED!


"FOR MANY CENTURIES, OUR MOST VALUABLE LIVESTOCK HERE ON MARS HAS BEEN THE AQUARIUS-URUS.' THIS ANIMAL, IN ADDITION TO SUPPLYING US WITH FOOD AND CLOTHING, HAS A SPECIAL QUALITY THAT IS IRREPLACEABLE.."


"... FOR IT IS EQUIPPED WITH A HOLLOW HORN THAT FURNISHES THE ANIMAL WITH WATER FROM THE DAY IT IS BORN UNTIL IT DIES. DUE TO A SPECIAL PHOTOSYNTHETIC LINING WITHIN THIS HORN A CATALYCTIC REACTION TAKES PLACE WHENEVER THE SUN'S RAYS STRIKE THE HORN. THE HORN ABSORBS OXYGEN FROM THE AIR AND CONVERTS IT INTO CLEAR PRECIOUS WATER."


"MARS HAS NEVER HAD AN ABUNDANCE OF DRINKING WATER SO THESE CREATURES, WITH THEIR PERPETUAL ELECTROLYSIS OF WATER, ARE AS NECESSARY TO US AS RAIN IS TO YOUR PLANET!"
"BUT AS ON ALL WORLDS, THERE ARE MEN WHO SEEK TO PROFIT FROM THE GIFTS OF NATURE. IN THE LAST HUNDRED YEARS THE AQUARIUS-URUS HAS BECOME PRACTICALLY EXTINCT, LIKE YOUR OWN BUFFALO. SELFISH MEN HAVE BEEN REMOVING THE HORNS FROM THESE ANIMALS TO SELL TO GREEDY MARTIANS WHO WOULD HOARD WATER!"
SO RECENTLY, OUR GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED THIS PRESERVATION TO PROTECT AND BREED THESE WORTHY ANIMALS.' HOWEVER, EVEN WITH OUR CLOSE WATCH, THE EGGS OF THE AQUARIUS-URUS STILL DISAPPEAR.'
HOW DOES THAT HAPPEN?
THAT'S WHAT WE'D LIKE TO KNOW! WHENEVER WE LEAVE EGGS TO HATCH IN NESTS ON THE PRESERVATION, THEY VANISH WITHIN 24 HOURS.' WE CAN'T FIND A SINGLE CLUE! ALL WE KNOW IS THAT MAVI OWNS A RANCH LESS THAN A MILE FROM HERE ... OTHER THAN THAT WE CAN'T PROVE A THING!'
MAVI IS VERY CAREFUL ABOUT WHOM HE ADMITS ON HIS RANCH...ALL HIS RANCH HANDS ARE EXPERTS--RODEO CHAMPIONS.' IN FACT, HE'LL PROBABLY TRY TO HIRE THE WINNER OF TOMORROW'S ANNUAL RODEO.'
A RODEO ON MARS?..TOMORROW? HMM... MAYBE I CAN LAND A JOB WITH MAVI.' CAN YOU RIG UP A MARTIAN SUIT OF CLOTHES-- AND ENTER ME IN THE RODEO?
WHAT? YOU RIDE IN THE RODEO? BUT YOU'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN ANY OF OUR WILD ANIMALS... YOU WOULDN'T STAND A CHANCE.'
WHY NOT? WHERE I COME FROM, WE TAME SOME MEAN BRONCOS... WITH A LITTLE PRACTICE, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO MASTER YOUR MARTIAN CREATURES.' ANYHOW, IT'S CERTAINLY WORTH A TRY!'


AND SO, THE FOLLOWING DAY...
WELCOME TO THE GREATEST SHOW ON MARS! NEW, WILD, DARING...THE MOST FEROCIOUS BEASTS EVER PUT IN ONE CORRAL! EVERY RIDER FLIRTS WITH DEATH... THE MOST DARING DEEDS EVER SHOWN! NOW--ON WITH THE ACTION!
THE FIRST EVENT--RIDING THE ZEBLUS...
THIS BABY REALLY BOUNCES... BUT I THINK I CAN HANG ON!
122
NEXT... ROPING THE GAUROS BULL...
HA,HA... WONDER WHAT MY DEPUTIES WOULD SAY IF THEY SAW ME NOW?
THEN COMES THE TARGET SHOOT FROM THE BACK OF A FLYING BANTENG...
SURE WISH I HAD ONE OF THESE GUNS BACK HOME! I COULD KILL A LOT OF SQUIRREL WITH IT!
AND FINALLY, WRESTLING THE WATER-SELADANG IN A MARTIAN CANAL, 50 FEET BELOW THE SURFACE!
WHEW! I'M GLAD TH S IS THE LAST CONTEST. I WAS GETTING TIRED. NOW TO SEE HOW I MADE OUT!
5


RISING TO THE SURFACE, RINK LEARNS THE DECISION OF THE JUDGES...
THE GRAND WINNER OF THIS YEAR'S RODEO... CONTESTANT NUMBER 22!
GREAT WORK, RINK... YOU WERE TERRIFIC! AND JUST TO PROVE IT, HERE COMES MAVI AND THE RIO KID... GOOD LUCK!
WHATEVER HAPPENS, I'LL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOU BY THE POCKET RADIO YOU GAVE ME! SEE YOU LATER!
A MOMENT LATER...
THAT WAS NICE RIDING, STRANGER! HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO WORK FOR US?
THAT ALL DEPENDS, MISTER! I'M NOT LOOKING FOR ANY OLD JOB... I'M OUT FOR BIG STAKES... IF YOU GET WHAT I MEAN!
HE SOUNDS LIKE JUST THE MAN WE NEED, EH, RIO? LET'S GO TO MY RANCH AND ACQUAINT HIM WITH SOME OF HIS... ER... DUTIES!
22
LATER, INSIDE MAVI'S STRONGHOLD...
THIS IS OUR MAIN BUSINESS--REMOVING THE HORNS OF THE AQUARIUSURUS AND SELLING THEM. YOU SEE, THE RARER THEY BECOME, THE MORE PEOPLE WILL PAY FOR THEM!
NOT BAD... BUT HOW DO YOU GET THEM OFF THE GOVERNMENT PRESERVATION?
HA, HA... WE DON'T STEAL THE HORNS! WE RAISE OUR OWN ANIMALS, WITH EGGS STOLEN FROM RIGHT UNDER THE GOVERNMENT AGENTS' NOSES! TONIGHT, YOU'LL SEE HOW WE OPERATE WHEN WE RAID THE NORTH SECTION OF THE PRESERVATION!
AFTERWARD, ALONE IN HIS ROOM, RINK CONTACTS THE MARTIAN PRESERVATION AGENTS...
THEY'RE PLANNING A RAID ON THE NORTH SECTION OF THE PRESERVATION! HAVE ALL YOUR MEN READY... I THINK WE CAN CATCH THEM TONIGHT!
NICE WORK, RINK... WE'LL BE THERE!
AND AT MIDNIGHT...
LUCKY FOR US THE AGENTS DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS ABANDONED CANAL THAT RUNS RIGHT INTO THE PRESERVATION!
HEY, MAVI... WHAT'S IN THESE CAGES? WHY DID WE BRING THEM ALONG?
DON'T BE SO CURIOUS, WISE-GUY!

SOON... THIS IS THE SPOT... OPEN THE CAGES AND LET'S GET STARTED.'
BUT THESE ARE ONLY WEASELS.' WHAT DO YOU WANT THEM FOR?
YOU'LL SEE IN A MINUTE... LET 'EM GO AND WATCH WHAT HAPPENS!
AND AS THE LITTLE ANIMALS ARE SET FREE...
SO THAT'S HOW IT'S DONE.' THESE WEASELS ARE TRAINED TO FETCH THE EGGS IN THEIR MOUTHS.' I HOPE THE AGENTS ARE WATCHING ALL THIS.'
SUDDENLY, A BLAZE OF FLOODLIGHTS, AND...
HUH? WE'RE TRAPPED.' B-BUT HOW'D THEY FIND OUT?
OKAY, MAVI... WE CAUGHT YOU THIS TIME.' PUT UP YOUR HANDS AND DON'T TRY ANY TRICKS.'
THEY'LL NEVER GET ME.' I'M TOO SMART FOR THESE MARTIANS.'
NO, YOU DON'T, RIO.' YOU AND I HAVE A SCORE TO SETTLE.'
I'VE WAITED FOR THIS A LONG TIME.' I HOPE YOU CAN SEE STARS ON MARS.'
OHHH...
CRACK!

AND SO, PRESENTLY...

GREAT JOB, RINK! WE CAPTURED EVERY ONE OF THEM, AND ALL THE *AQUARIUS-URUS* EGGS ARE SAFE! WE OWE YOU A LOT!

YOU DON'T OWE ME A THING, TOLA! MY JOB WAS TO GET THE *RIO KID*-- AND NOW THAT I HAVE HIM, I'D LIKE TO RETURN HOME!

LATER, BACK AT PRESERVATION HEADQUARTERS...

THIS IS OUR OWN *TIME CHAMBER*, RINK... WE'VE SET IT SO THAT YOU'LL RETURN TO EARTH ONLY A FEW MINUTES AFTER YOU WERE FIRST BROUGHT HERE!

MY THANKS TO YOU BOTH! AND IF YOU EVER NEED ME AGAIN, I'LL BE GLAD TO HELP OUT! GOODBYE FOR NOW!

SHORTLY AFTER, ON EARTH...

RINK'S BEEN IN THERE A LONG TIME... MAYBE WE'D BETTER GO IN AND INVESTIGATE!

NO, HERE HE COMES NOW! AND HE'S GOT THE *RIO KID* IN HANDCUFFS!

WHAT HAPPENED, RINK? WAS IT A LONG CHASE?

HA, HA... IT WAS OUT OF THIS WORLD, TEX!... REALLY OUT OF THIS WORLD!

THE END

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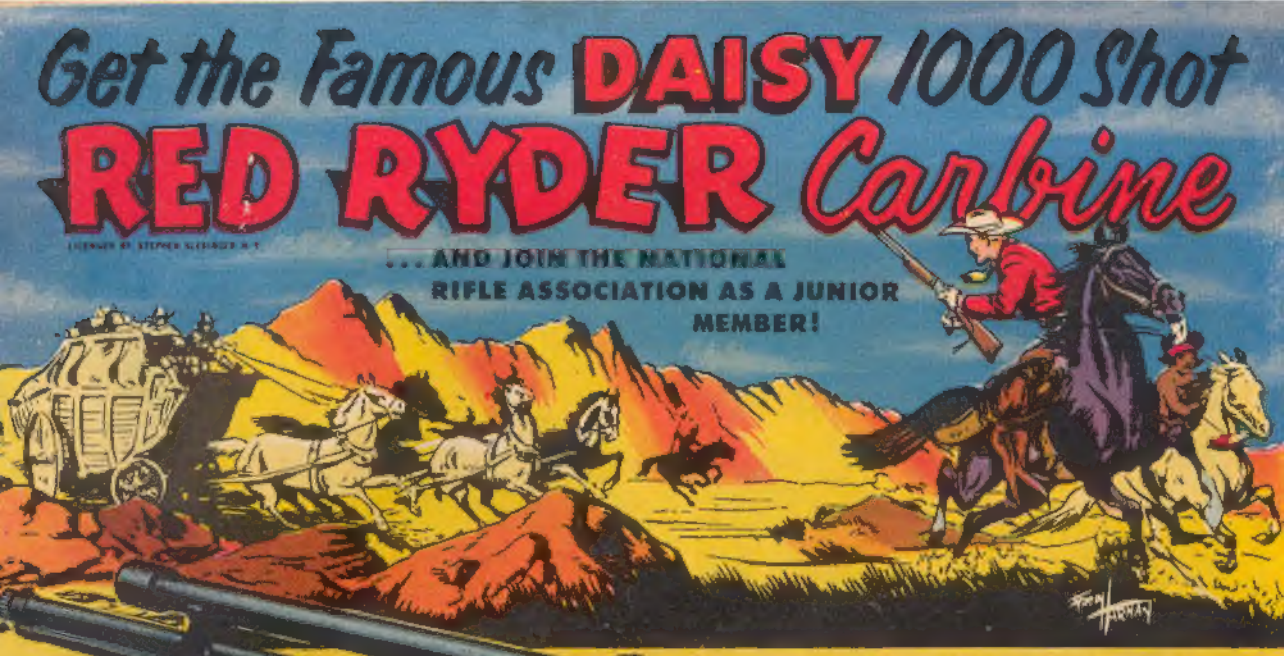

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